





# Rising tide of violence forces Ulster leaders to sink or swim

RENEWED sectarian violence has pushed the Northern Ireland peace process perilously close to a poisonous disintegration. There is only one possible antidote — the rapid acceleration of the multi-party talks process to the point where the broad lines of a settlement tolerable to majorities in both communities is visible.

That work has to be completed by February; the formal talks deadline of May has been overtaken by a new deadline imposed by the brutality on the streets.

At the heart of the current crisis is the growing alienation of the Protestant community, exacerbated in some quarters by widespread conspiracy theories about the murder of Billy Wright in the Maze prison. The British and Irish Governments are attempt-



Every effort must be made on all sides to ensure the continuation of the peace talks on January 12. And this time the process must be made to work, argues Paul Bew

ing to offer the Provos an honourable way out of the conflict — not substantive victory — but most Unionists instinctively fear that every concession along this route is a down-payment on Irish unity.

There is a bitter irony here: both Governments, precisely because they are so wedded to the principle of consent — which is the decisive protection of the interests of the Unionist community — tend not to have sufficient empathy

with the fearfulness and uncertainty in that community generated by 25 years of the Troubles.

Unionists increasingly perceive the peace process as a miserable and unrewarding experience. In fact, some progress has been made in recent months in areas of concern to Unionists such as the Council of the British Isles concept and the removal of the Irish territorial claim. But, at this moment, David Trimble, the Ul-

ster Unionist leader, should be given all the technical assistance necessary to allow him to formulate a realistic cross-border programme of co-operation that would, in turn, allow the SDLP and the Irish Government to sanction a Northern assembly. This is the key to any possible substantive breakthrough.

In early December, the Irish Government gave the distinct impression that it wanted to delay the moment of decision — on such matters as the Northern Ireland Assembly — to protect Gerry Adams's leadership of Sinn Féin. Such calculations, while reflecting understandable fears about the balance of forces within republicanism, are now redundant: those republicans opposed to a non-violent strategy are now being

handed opportunities by Loyalist terrorists.

Anyway, at some moment the republican leadership has to choose whether or not to oppose by violence a settlement that will inevitably be based on the principle of consent. So rapid is the deterioration on the ground — signalled by a remark yesterday of Gerry Kelly, a senior Sinn Féin negotiator, that the peace process was "shattered" — that there is nothing to be gained by delaying any further that moment.

It is only when both communities can see that their core interests will be protected that stability will be achieved. The production of such an agreement is indeed a tall order. But it was done in broad theoretical outline with the Downing Street Declaration of

1993; a similarly intensive effort involving this time the leadership of the principle local parties — is now required.

For many of the older politicians at these talks, this is the last opportunity to bequeath the legacy of a society which can live without fear of random political violence. But to do that, those politicians will have to take risks they have never taken before.

Both John Hume and Mr Trimble can surely see in their minds' eyes an acceptable compromise, though they may have their doubts how to sell it to their supporters. Unionists have a tendency to be far too pessimistic about their political future. Mr Trimble may gamble that such a pessimism will turn to relief if a decent package is unveiled.

Northern nationalists, on the other hand, as John Briston, the former Irish Prime Minister, has authoritatively pointed out, have exaggeratedly optimistic expectations, and it will require all Mr Hume's undoubted ability to point up the decided advantages of the settlement for them. Great difficulties lie ahead — but the alternative is passively to accept the dictates of sectarian killers.

The worrying feature of the new outbreak of sectarian violence is that it may inspire a sense of defeat and despair among some of those politicians who are central to any hope of success in this endeavour.

Paul Bew is Professor of Irish Politics at Queen's University, Belfast.

# Labour rebels in Euro switch are urged to quit

By Nicholas Watt, Political Correspondent

TWO rebel Labour MEPs have intensified their battle by making a tactical switch to the Green Group in the European Parliament. The Labour leadership yesterday released details of the move by Ken Coates and Hugh Kerr — which stops just short of a full defection — in an attempt to force them to leave the party altogether.

A senior Labour source called on the rebels to "do the honourable thing" and quit, adding: "Frankly, we will be glad to see the back of them. They have consigned themselves to the political wilderness."

Mr Coates, the MEP for Nottingham North and Chesterfield, and Mr Kerr, the MEP for West Essex and East Hertfordshire, insisted yesterday that they had not defected from the Labour Party and that they would still take the whip of the European Parliament Socialist Group.

The rebels said they had accepted "honorary membership" of the Greens so that funds allocated by the Parliament yesterday could be held by the Greens until their

dispute with Labour had been resolved. At the beginning of every year the Parliament funds the running costs of political groupings according to the number of MEPs in each group. The rebels said that it would be wrong for the Socialist Group to receive money on their behalf when they could be expelled by Labour within weeks.

Mr Coates and Mr Kerr have been involved in a bitter confrontation with the Labour leadership over Tony Blair's plans to reform the welfare state. In the autumn they were threatened with suspension from the Labour group in Strasbourg for refusing to accept a new code of conduct.

Mr Coates said yesterday: "Our future isn't exactly certain so we had to inform the President of the Parliament that we didn't know which group we would be in all year. We could have sat as Independent Labour in the Socialist Group but no-one knew if the group could have us on that basis. I want to stay in the Socialist Group for ever and ever. It's a question of whether they will have me." The

Labour leadership believes that the two rebels are using the funding issue to try to force the party to expel them. The leadership is loath to "make martyrs" of the rebels and is hoping that party anger at their disloyalty will force them to leave.

Faunne Green, the MEP for London North and leader of the Socialist Group in Strasbourg, released a letter she received from José María Gil-Robles Gil-Degado, President of the European Parliament, which made clear that they had left the group. The president wrote: "Mr Coates and Mr Kerr have informed me they are leaving the group of the Party of European Socialists and joining the Green Group with immediate effect."

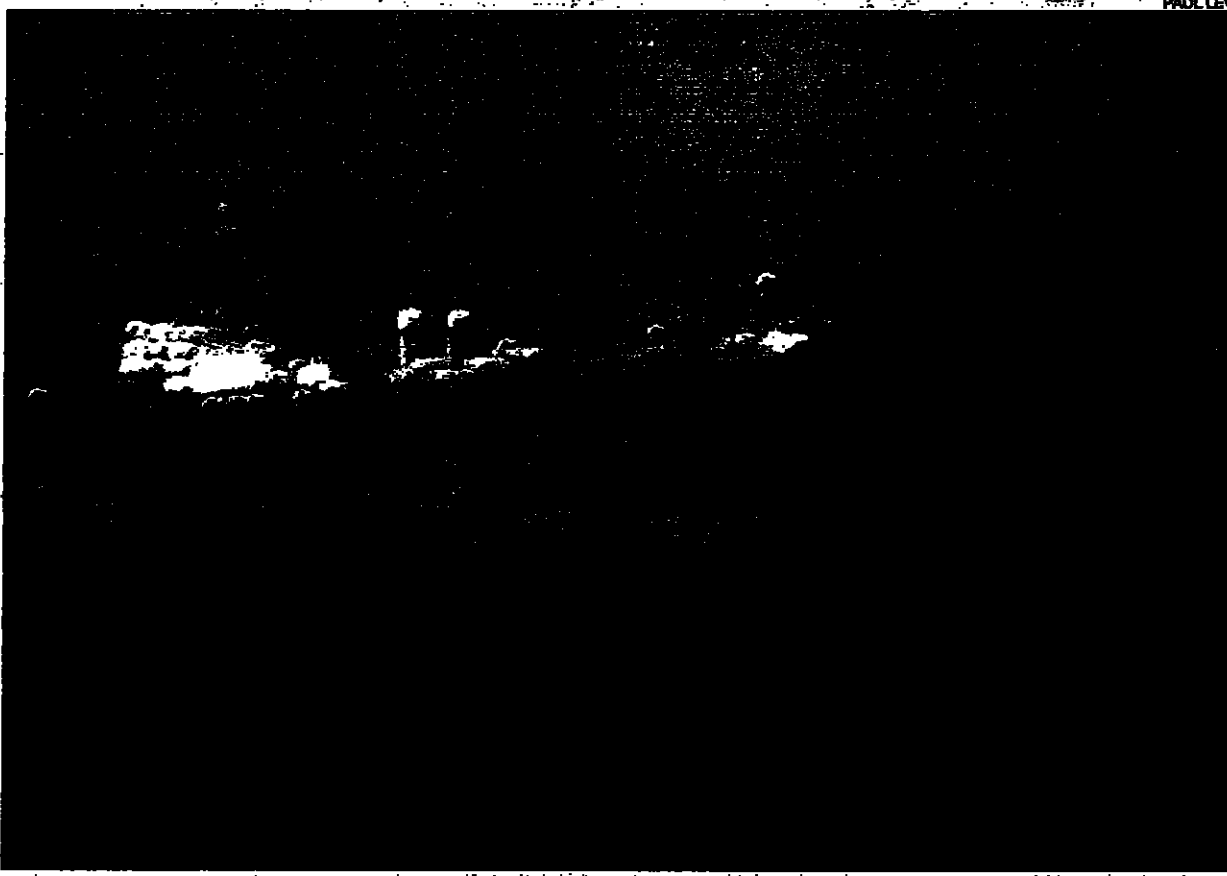
Ms Green dismissed the rebels' claims that they had joined the Greens as honorary members. She said: "There is no such thing as an honorary membership of a group in the European Parliament."

Wayne David, MEP for South Wales Central and the Labour leader in Strasbourg, said their "inevitable" departure was good for all concerned and he predicted that they would be "soundly rejected" if they stood in elections on their new platform.

Labour leftwingers at Westminster also condemned the two rebels. David Winnick, MP for Walsall North, who was one of 47 Labour MPs to vote against cuts to lone-parents benefit last month, called on Mr Coates to leave the party quickly or be expelled. Mr Winnick said Mr Coates had discredited the campaign to defend welfare benefits by threatening to stand as an independent.



Ken Coates, left, and Hugh Kerr: "honorary" Greens



Driven aground: the Santa Anna pictured as light failed last night, and below the damaged vessel Oak

# Failing light halts rescue of tanker crew

Continued from page 1

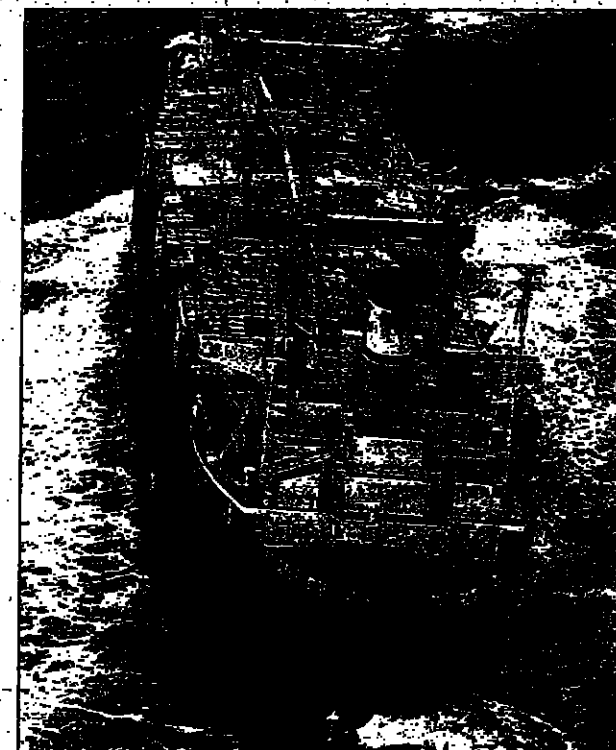
water lapping over the sides of the deck cargo was still hanging over the side of the vessel, but that was not causing a problem because the winds were now from the west.

The Oak was said earlier to be making good progress, but coastguards said they were watching the situation very carefully.

The captain of an RAF Nimrod aircraft which flew over the Oak yesterday told how he saw the vessel listing in the "huge swell".

"It was one of the worst I have ever seen," said Flight Lieutenant Allan Squires, who flew the RAF Kinloss based aircraft out to the vessel.

During the five-and-a-half hours he was over the Oak, Flt Lt Squires told how he saw



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# Decision soon for minister's son in drug case

By Daniel McGroarty

THE Cabinet minister's son who is accused of selling cannabis will find out next week if he is to be charged, senior police sources said yesterday.

Under bail conditions, the 17-year-old is due to return to a police station near his home in South London, by which time detectives will almost certainly have made a decision.

Pressure is still growing on the minister from the media and some of his parliamentary colleagues to reveal his identity before then, but he has made it clear he will wait for the legal process.

The minister has admitted to several newspapers that he is "frustrated" at having to maintain his anonymity, and says his son is "suffering more than other kids would have in the same circumstances because of who I am. We are very close and I want to protect him. But I want to do the right thing as well."

The minister is understood to be preparing a statement to be issued as soon as the legal constraints on identifying his son are lifted. He is likely to set out the circumstances of the alleged offence, how he felt as a father, and to explain that he acted in respect of his own child in the same way in which he would expect other parents to behave.

He is understood to believe that nothing he has done in private runs counter to anything he has said in public. He has been reassured by the Prime Minister that his job is safe.

The minister is also understood to be annoyed at the suggestion that he had anything to do with the arrest of the *Mirror* reporter, Dawn Alford, who persuaded his son to sell her £10 of cannabis, or with the injunction laid on News Group by the Attorney-General on Tuesday, preventing the teenager from being named.

He has let it be known that both the police and the Attorney-General acted independently of him and that his office was not informed about their plans.

The police file on the teenager is now with the Crown Prosecution Service, whose lawyers are expected to make a swift decision on Monday about what to do with the teenager, who is alleged to have sold drugs to the undercover reporter outside a South London pub.

Police are believed to have recommended that no prosecution should be brought, but have yet to decide whether he should be cautioned, which depends upon whether the teenager admits his guilt.

# Middle-aged 'need welfare-to-work'

By Nicholas Wood

MINISTERS are being urged to revamp the £3.5 billion welfare-to-work programme to concentrate assistance on the middle-aged and older people unable to find a job.

The programme was conceived as a lifeline for those aged 18 to 24 who had been out of work for more than six months. But a sharp fall in their numbers has prompted senior Tories to urge Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, to reconsider the scheme.

The target audience among the young jobless has plummeted from 370,000 in April 1994 to 122,000 today. But unemployment among people aged 35-59 without a job for a year or more has fallen far less slowly. In October, there were 359,000 people in this category, down from 518,000 in April 1994.

David Willetts, the Shadow Employment Minister, is writing to Mr Brown to urge him to revise the programme, which offers young people a choice of a subsidised job with an employer, work in the voluntary sector or on an environmental taskforce, or a year's full-time education.

Mr Willetts said that, of the £3.5 billion allocated to welfare-to-work in the Budget, £3.15 billion was reserved for the 18-24 age group. Only £350 million would be spent helping over 25s who had been out of work for at least two years.

He said: "When Labour announced this programme in Opposition, there were 250,000 young people who had been unemployed for more than six months. Tory policies more than halved that figure and the latest figures show that there are 120,000 young people unemployed for more than six months. It is irresponsible

to be spending so much of the £3.5 billion welfare-to-work programme on a problem that is, thank heavens, shrinking fast.

"I also understand that the Treasury is telling the Department for Education and Employment that most money has to be spent on the young unemployed. So we will be in the absurd position of spending billions of pounds on a problem which is disappearing like the snow in spring."

Welfare-to-work is launched on Monday in 12 "pathfinder areas", initially covering 26,000 jobless people aged 18-24. They will enter a so-called "gateway" programme of four months' assisted job search and help with skills. Those who fail to get a job will join the scheme, which will guarantee them a job for at least six months.

on them, he laughed and said "That is a separate question. You will have to ask whoever."

Lord Hurd, who had extolled the importance of security service despatches from around the globe, was reticent when asked about their usefulness in Europe. "No, I don't want to talk about that," he said.

Mr Cook, the first Labour Foreign Secretary for almost 20 years, was also asked whether he had sanctioned spying on his EU counterparts. He said: "I am sorry I cannot talk about that... It is secret information. We never discuss that."

The programme features six former Foreign Secretaries including Lord Callaghan of

# MI6 spying on EU states

Continued from page 1

Cardiff, Lord Carrington, who resigned after the invasion of the Falklands, Lord Howe of Aberavon, and Sir Malcolm Rifkind, the last Tory Foreign Secretary.

Mr Cook and his predecessors reveal the demands of one of the most glamorous posts in government. "This would be a great job, if it weren't for the bloody foreigners," one predecessor complains.

Mr Cockerell, a noted documentary maker, said he was told by a senior official: "Of course we spied on them. It is as vital to know what our European partners are doing as any Soviet battle plan."

The Foreign Office refused to comment on the controversy last night.

Asked whether he had spied

# the winter Sale

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# The love of danger lies behind Kennedy curse

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

ONCE more there will be women in black and eulogies for a life taken too soon. The Kennedy "curse" has struck again. A tendency to live dangerously has left America's foremost political dynasty ravaged by sexual impropriety, drugs, alcoholism and untimely death.

Michael Kennedy, who died while skiing in Aspen on New Year's Eve, lost his father, Robert, in 1968. He was amid a throng of well-wishers in a hotel kitchen in Los Angeles after winning a presidential primary. Ignoring warnings, he had campaigned by plunging into crowds and walking unprotected in parades, despite the shooting of his brother John, the President, in an open car in Dallas only five years before.

Their younger brother Edward, already a senator, was considered next in line to try for the highest office, but his White House hopes collapsed in 1969 when he drove his car off a rickety bridge after a late-night party on Chappaquiddick Island in Massachusetts. He swam to safety but his passenger, Mary Jo Kopechne, an aide, drowned.

In the next generation, David, another of Robert Kennedy's 11 children, died of a drug overdose in 1984 in an hotel after being banished from the family compound in Palm Beach, Florida.

Another son, Joseph, was



Victims: top, John F. Kennedy and brother Joe Jr.; below, Robert Kennedy and his son David



the driver in a 1973 car accident that left a teenage girl passenger paralysed for life. He is now a congressman from Boston, city of the Kennedys' Irish-American roots. Despite hard work for constituents, especially the poor, he has been hobbled by scandal. After his marriage was annulled, his former wife, Sheila, published a book criticising the Vatican's annulment prac-

tices and said Joseph had bullied her, dooming his hopes of the Massachusetts governorship.

Last August saw a rare falling-out among the family. John Kennedy Jr, the fallen President's son, berated his cousins Joseph and the late Michael as "poster boys for bad behaviour" in his political magazine *George*. The attack on Michael was provoked by

the revelation last April that he had a long affair with his children's baby-sitter, beginning when she was 14. Prosecutors did not press charges of statutory rape because the teenager refused to co-operate. Michael apologised and underwent treatment for heavy drinking. He parted from his wife, but they were reconciled.

If the case had gone to trial, it would have been another media circus along the lines of the "nude rape" trial and acquittal six years ago of William Kennedy Smith, a nephew of Senator Kennedy, again in Palm Beach.

It is part of the Kennedy misfortune that scandals stay in the memory while their good works are overlooked. Michael devoted 12 years to a non-profit company supplying heating fuel to the poor.

The grandee of the Kennedy clan was the late President's father, Joseph P. Kennedy, whose labyrinthine business dealings included selling spirits during Prohibition, according to biographers. An arrogant man of prodigious energy, he had a long affair with the film star Gloria Swanson while remaining married to his wife, Rose.

Tragedy first struck during his lifetime. He had envisaged the presidency for his oldest son, Joe Jr, but he was killed in an aircraft crash in the Second World War. His daughter Kathleen also died in an aircraft accident. His daughter Rosemary has spent years in an institution after a failed lobotomy in 1941.



Robert Alan with Sister Rukmin Danapalan in hospital yesterday

## Appeal to mother of dumped baby boy

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

POLICE have appealed to the mother of a newborn baby abandoned in the street on New Year's Eve to come forward. The two-day-old boy, named Robert Alan after the two ambulance men who picked him up, was found by a passer-by who heard him crying as he lay on the pavement behind garages in Leyton, East London.

The 7lb 10oz boy was wrapped in a shawl and still had a plastic yellow umbilical clip attached. Yesterday, Detective Inspector Phil Jones, from Leyton police, said they had checked all hospitals in the area but had been unable to trace the baby's birthplace. He said he was hoping that staff would remember delivering the child. "The clip is one which hospital staff say is only available to midwives or other medical staff."

The boy, who is of mixed race, is being cared for at Whipps Cross Hospital, East London. Ian Macintosh, a registrar, said: "He was in good condition and was relatively warm when found, and had probably been out in the cold for only half an hour."

Mr Jones said: "This is a beautiful baby boy who needs his mum. Let us make this a happy new year for both mother and child by reuniting them."

## Troubled political family in mourning once again

Continued from page 1  
the family well. I anointed Michael and gave Communion to the entire family, over 15 of them, in the hospital. It was a beautiful witness of their faith. It was so hurting, death upon death is so sad."

Later on Wednesday evening, the Kennedy family issued a statement, which said: "Michael Kennedy was a special and wonderful father, son, brother, cousin, and friend, and his family would appreciate your prayers during this tragic time. The Kennedy family also requests that the public and the press respect their privacy during this difficult moment."

President Clinton interrupted a new year celebration to

call the Kennedy family to express their condolences. Joseph Kennedy, Mr Kennedy's brother, also issued a statement: "Michael's death is a terrible tragedy for his children, his wife, Vicki, and the entire family. We will miss him dearly."

The death of 11 children born to Robert and Ethel Kennedy, Mr Kennedy was for long regarded as one of the most talented members of his generation in America's "first family". More recently, however, he came to be regarded as the most controversial.

A quiet, unassuming man by Kennedy standards, he fell spectacularly from grace last spring when *The Boston Globe* alleged that he had had

an affair with the family's underage babysitter. Although sex with a person under 16 constitutes statutory rape, no charges were brought against Mr Kennedy.

However, his wife Victoria, to whom he had been married for 16 years, did leave him.

After initial denials, Mr Kennedy eventually acknowledged the relationship with the babysitter, although he insisted that it did not begin until she was older than 16. Yet the fallout from the scandal was so bad that it also soured the political career of his brother, Joseph, then hoping to secure the Democratic Party's nomination for the Massachusetts gubernatorial election.

## Princess fund to begin payments

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT AND DANIEL MCGRODY

THE first disbursements from the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund are to be made within weeks after growing criticism that the charity is taking too long to spend the £35 million it has collected so far.

Charities at home and abroad associated with Aids, the homeless and children are believed to be among the first beneficiaries. The fund is expected to make another £10 million over the Christmas period through sales of records, videos and other merchandise. It is expected to exceed £100 million by the end of this year.

A senior figure in the fund said that trustees felt the time was right to start distributing the money. "We have been attacked for sitting on the money but we needed to get it right, to reflect what Diana would have wanted. We want to get the money doing some good."

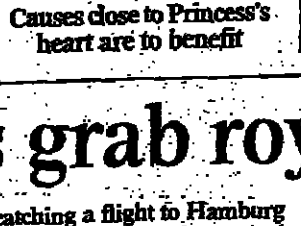
The fund has held several private meetings with leaders of the charities with which the Princess was closely associated - the "Kensington Six" - to decide how best to distribute the money and will ask Maggie Baxter, secretary of the Comic Relief charity, to help.

It has received more than a thousand requests from charities round the world. The lat-

est include a children's hospital in Mexico and a drug rehabilitation unit in Bogota. A spokesman said there had been so many requests that it would take time to agree priorities.

The newly-appointed nine trustees, under the presidency of Lady Sarah McCorquodale, the Princess's sister, agree that the Kensington Six will not be the sole recipients.

The fund will be boosted by huge Christmas sales of the memorial CD and of Sir Elton John's *Candle in the Wind 1997*. Sir Elton has already donated £20 million, and the record industry predicts he will be able to pass on as much again.



Causes close to Princess's heart are to benefit

## Sparkling new year for Princes in Klosters

BY A CORRESPONDENT

PRINCES William and Harry waved sparklers in the air as they celebrated the new year in the Alps watching a huge fireworks display.

After a private dinner party at the Walsertal Hotel in Klosters, Prince William, 15, and Prince Harry, 13, watched the display from a hotel window while the Prince of Wales joined revellers in the street to see in the new year.

Joining the royal party were Zara Phillips, daughter of the Princess Royal, and Tiggy Legge-Bourke, the Princess' former nanny.

The boys' first day on the slopes yesterday was marked by the absence of photographers and reporters. "They enjoyed a completely media-free day," a royal aide said.

In return for an otherwise private skiing holiday, the Prince of Wales, his sons and Miss Phillips will pose for the cameras today on the slopes of Chesa Salfra above Klosters. "The Prince of Wales recognises the public's legitimate interest," the aide said.

"But they would then like to be left alone for the rest of their holiday. They don't expect to see a lens, camera, whatever, anywhere near them."

## Muggers grab royal gems

PRINCESS Erina of Saxony was the victim of a gang of six masked motorcycle thieves who snatched an attaché case containing rare jewels from the back seat of her Buick at a Riviera shopping centre (Susan Bell writes).

Among the stolen jewellery was a small 475-carat bear cub sculpted in rubies and blue pearl. The thieves also escaped with a mink stole and credit cards. Planning some last-minute shopping before

catching a flight to Hamburg on Tuesday, the princess and Pierre Mreches, her companion, had parked the car at Cap 3000, a large shopping centre near Nice airport. It was crowded and nobody paid much attention to the motorcycles. As the princess opened her door the gang grabbed the case and rode off.

The bear formed part of a family inheritance with a bizarre twist. In 1945, Prince Ernst Heinrich, the son of the last King of Saxony, Friedrich August III and Princess Erina's father in law, buried 15 boxes of jewellery and antiques in the grounds of the family chateau in Dresden to hide them from the Russians. Twelve were recovered after the war but three remained lost until they were discovered in 1996 by two youths with metal detectors. The combats were restored to the nine heirs who shared the Fr600 million (£61 million) inheritance.

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Model 4700. Was £29.99. Now £27.99.

**VIDAL SAASSON** Diffuser Hairdryer  
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# Fiancée killed by driver seconds after leaving pub

By Kevin Eason

A WOMAN was killed by a hit-and-run driver as she walked home from a New Year's Eve party with her fiancé, Lisa Ann Wesbroom, 21, was knocked down after leaving a pub in Woodcote, Oxfordshire.

Another woman died after being hit by a car as she walked to a New Year's Eve party in Basildon, Essex.

Mr Stevens and Miss Wesbroom, who were planning to marry later this year, had been celebrating the second anniversary of their engagement with her family, including her father, John, and younger brothers Wayne and Mark.

Miss Wesbroom, a care assistant for the elderly, died at the scene. Mr Stevens, the oldest of four brothers from Yarnton, near Oxford, was in a stable condition with head injuries in the Royal Berkshire Hospital last night.

Witnesses said an E-registered Lancia Delta had careered around a bend on the B471, hitting a parked car before knocking down the couple, who had just left the party to walk home. The car then crashed into the Red Lion public house. Dennis Smith, the landlord, said that Miss Wesbroom had been drinking orange juice minutes before she was killed. His wife, Jean, added: "The car came around



Lisa Ann Wesbroom: died at scene of the crash

the corner and hit Lisa, who was standing with Darren. She died straight away. The car then carried Darren along the front of the pub before crashing into the bay window at the end."

Mark Wesbroom, 20, said: "We were all in the pub when it happened. We heard a loud bang and rushed outside."

The driver abandoned his car and fled. He was chased by some of the pub's customers but escaped. Three hours after the accident a man was arrested at Goring railway station near by after telephoning his parents.

Police were sent to the station and arrested a 20-year-old man who was taken to Reading police station. A police spokesman said the man had given a positive breath test and had been arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving and drink-driving.

Mr Stevens' mother, Heather, said her son had been "on the top of the world" as he celebrated the engagement anniversary to Miss Wesbroom. "He was absolutely devoted to Lisa. She meant the world to him," she said. "She spent Christmas with us. She was like a daughter we never had."

Tina Thorne, 39, was killed as she was on her way with friends to a New Year's Eve party when she was hit by a car in Basildon. She suffered serious head injuries and died later in Basildon General Hospital. Traffic police yesterday issued an appeal for anyone who saw the crash or knew the driver of the dark-coloured car, possibly a Ford, that was involved.

Officers say the car will have suffered frontal damage in the collision with Mrs Thorne, who lived with her family in the town.



While most of the nation was sleeping off the excesses of the night before, Irene Hill, 71, left, and Mary Dowson, 83, took a traditional New Year's Day dip at Whitley Bay, North Tyneside. Another bather, also 83, said: "It's absolutely perishing, but I can't think of anything more bracing"

# Youth loses his legs in midnight fall under train

By Adrian Lee

A STUDENT who lost both his legs when he fell under a train on New Year's Eve is thought to have taken Ecstasy.

The accident happened at Milton Keynes station, on the stroke of midnight, as James O'Shea, 19, and a small group of friends waited for a train home. Mr O'Shea and another youth stumbled off the platform on to the tracks. The second teenager was able to scramble to safety as the London-bound train approached, but Mr O'Shea was struck as he tried to haul himself to safety.

Ambulancemen arrived to find him trapped beneath the train and a paramedic was sent to the scene. Both Mr O'Shea's legs were later amputated. The impact also severed an artery below the waist.

Mr O'Shea, from Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, was last night said to be "very poorly" in Milton Keynes General Hospital, where his parents were with him. Witnesses said they had seen the youths larking about before the accident.

Inspector Adrian Wells, of British Transport Police, said: "This is an awful tragedy to have happened as the new year comes in. It appears the young man had been celebrating the new year. It shows that

you cannot be anything other than sensible around railway stations."

He said witnesses to the incident were highly distressed and would not be interviewed for several days. Some, who had travelled from London to a rave party in Milton Keynes, were traced as they arrived home early yesterday.

It is believed that the driver of the train, which was slowing down as it pulled into the platform, saw Mr O'Shea on the rails but was unable to stop. Police sources said that one of his friends had told doctors that Mr O'Shea had taken Ecstasy. It is not known if Mr O'Shea attended the rave.

Film from video surveillance cameras at the station was being studied yesterday. The death of an 18-year-old who collapsed at a party was drugs-related, a Home Office pathologist told police yesterday, after a post-mortem examination. The exact cause of death will not be known until further tests have been carried out. William McLean, of Hamilton, South Lanarkshire, died on Wednesday after collapsing at a house in Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.

A man was arrested and released on police bail pending inquiries.

# End of the line for Dam Buster test tanks

By Nigel Hawkes  
SCIENCE EDITOR

THE ship-testing tanks used by Sir Barnes Wallis to test the bouncing bombs used in the Dam Busters raid are to be demolished.

The two tanks, at the National Physical Laboratory in Teddington, southwest London, are no longer in use and are to be demolished as part of a redevelopment of the site. English Heritage hopes that at least one tank will be retained because of its historic interest.

The tanks were used to design ships' hulls. The first, built between 1909 and 1911, is 550ft by 30ft and 13ft deep, and the second, built in 1932, is 678ft long.

When Wallis had the idea of destroying German dams, he realised the only way of doing it was to explode charges underwater against the dam walls. Tests, including some at the ship tanks, showed that the best way of doing that was to bounce the bombs along the surface of the water until they reached the dams.

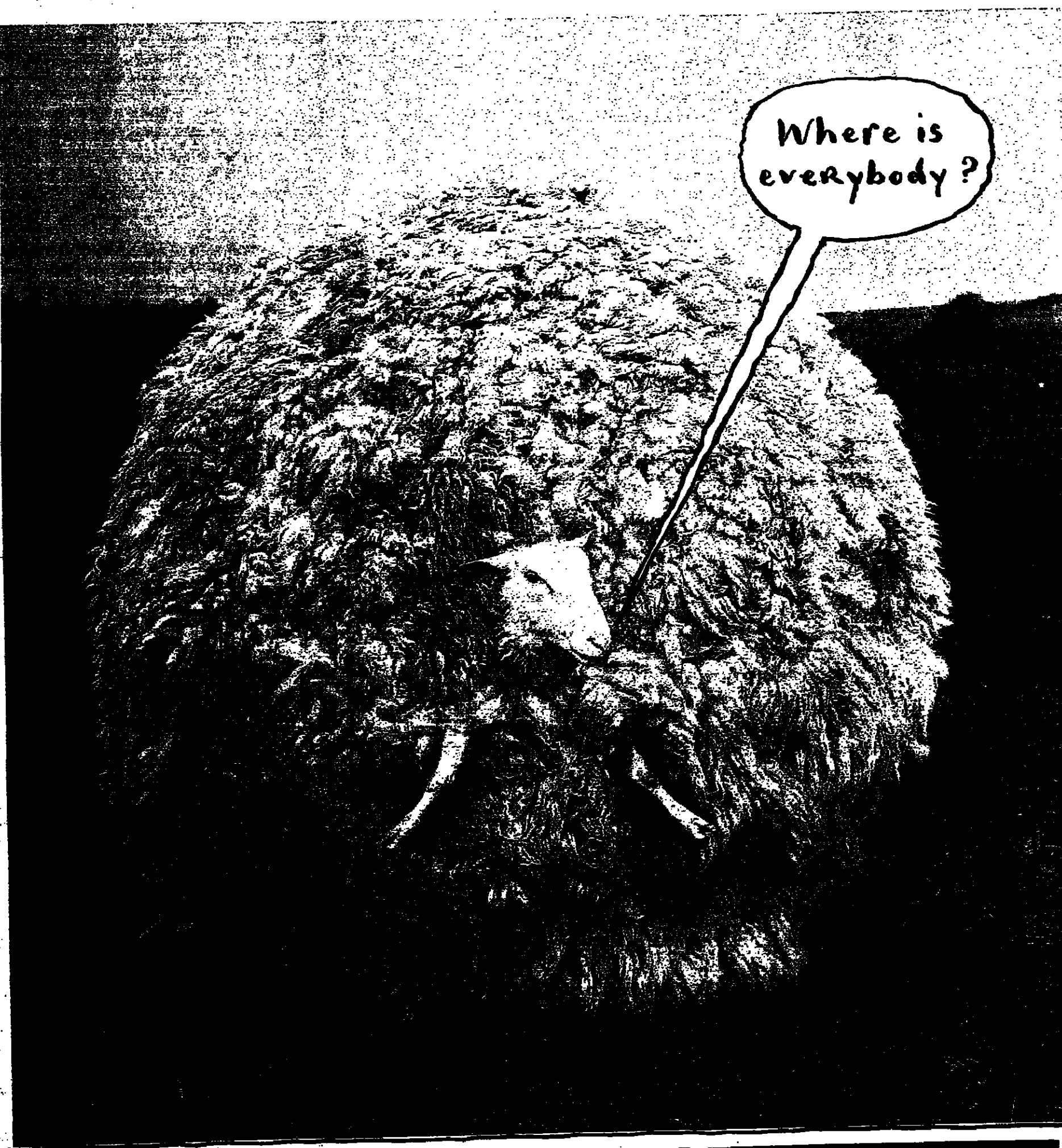
Tomorrow in THE SATURDAY TIMES



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# Petrol stations driven to close by price war

PETROL companies and supermarkets are expected to be urged by the Office of Fair Trading to call a ceasefire in their price war to prevent the closure of thousands of rural filling stations.

Small independent garages, vital to many villages, have been caught in the battle between oil companies and supermarkets, which have been winning a bigger share of petrol and diesel sales by cutting prices. More than 2,000 are estimated to have been forced to close in the past year, with the loss of 10,000 jobs. Many more are under threat.

The Retail Motor Industry Federation warned the OFT that of 18,500 petrol retailing sites two years ago, fewer than 10,500 would remain in the next century. Tiny garages where the staff fill the cars from a row of pumps are a rarity these days, largely replaced by electronically controlled forecourts.

John Bridgeman, Director-

**The Office of Fair Trading is expected to act to protect a vital service, reports Kevin Eason**

General of the Office of Fair Trading, has investigated whether sales were won by discounting at prices below cost. While he cannot condemn price cuts which benefit consumers, he is under pressure to curb the "predatory pricing" which leaves dozens of rural communities without their own filling station.

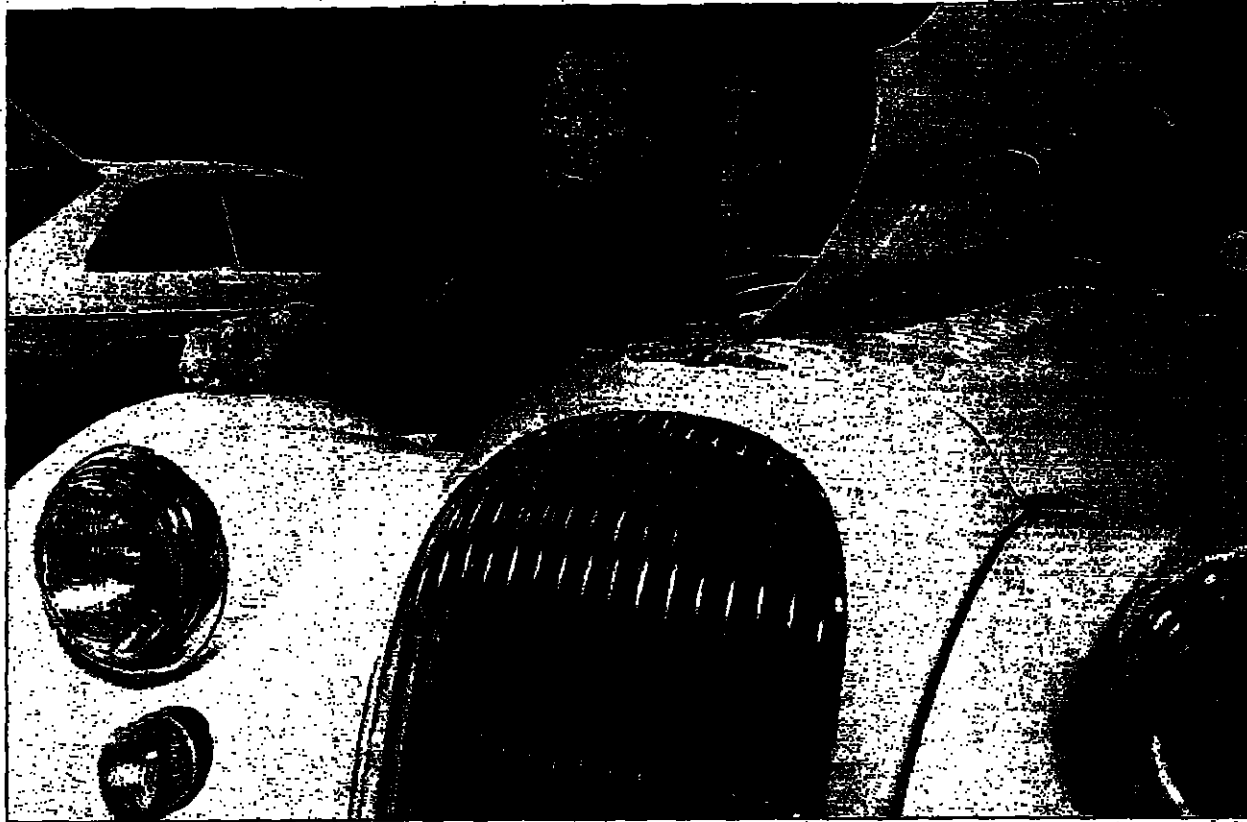
His report in the spring is expected to call for a code of practice to curb extreme price-cutting and provide plans for support for rural stations. Mr

Bridgeman will tell oil companies and supermarkets to stop selling petrol at a loss simply to win market share.

Small operators in outlying towns and villages cannot buy petrol in the bulk that brings discounts from oil companies and allows them to cut prices to compete. Figures compiled by the Retail Motor Industry Federation show that a typical supermarket sells two million gallons of fuel a year; a rural filling station might sell as little as a tenth of that amount.

In eight years, the proportion of motor fuel sold in Britain by supermarkets has jumped from 8 per cent to 22.1 per cent, with Tesco, Sainsbury, Asda and Safeway dominating the scene. As the supermarkets have taken more sales, oil companies — led by Esso, Shell, BP/Mobil and Texaco — fought back with price cuts of their own.

Motorists would buy £5 worth of petrol at Hugh Wilson's garage in Dunoon, in



Alan Ireland, who deals in Morgan cars near Truro, Cornwall. He had to give up selling petrol after 14 years.

Argyll and Bute, to get to a Tesco supermarket across the Clyde where they could fill up for as much as 8p a litre cheaper. Mr Wilson now gets help from Esso so his prices can be as low as Tesco's, but said: "It was tough. I can just about see Tesco's from here, so I was almost watching them

take the business because at the time I couldn't compete." Alan Ireland gave up after 14 years. His little garage in Perranwell Station, Cornwall, now has a reputation as a base for restorations of Morgan sports cars instead of as the local filling station. "We couldn't afford to buy the amounts the

oil companies wanted us to take, it was worth the fight," he said. "People these days have to go into towns for their shopping anyway and would drive past to get to a supermarket. We wanted something more permanent." Chris McGowan, the federation's chief executive, added:

"For some communities, the local filling station is vital. Many old people, the disabled or young mothers do not want to have to spend £5 or £10 in petrol just to get to their nearest filling station. We need help from the OFT to protect jobs in communities already drained of local services."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Boyfriend in court on murder charge

The boyfriend of Lisa Blunt, a mother of four who was reported missing ten days ago, appeared before magistrates yesterday charged with her murder. Vincent Ronald Shilton, 29, from Bestwood, Nottingham, was remanded in custody for eight days.

Mr Shilton, a factory worker, was accused of killing his 22-year-old partner on or about December 21. He spoke only to confirm his name, date of birth and address. There was no application for bail and reporting restrictions were not lifted. Police have said they were confident that a charred body found two days ago in Bulwell, Nottingham, was that of Miss Blunt.

### Police van death

A 22-year-old man died after he was hit by a police dog handler's van responding to an emergency call in St Helen's, Merseyside. Police officers gave the victim first aid for severe head injuries at the scene but he was pronounced dead on arrival at hospital. The Police Complaints Authority is investigating.

### Killer recaptured

A murderer who absconded from Leyhill Open Prison, Gloucestershire, was re-arrested yesterday in Wellingborough, Somerset. Anthony Lucas, 48, serving life for killing his common-law wife, was reported missing on New Year's Eve, which made him the tenth inmate to abscond from Leyhill last year.

### Officers in brawl

An internal police inquiry is under way after two officers came to blows at a Christmas party held by the Crown Prosecution Service in Plymouth. A Devon and Cornwall Police spokesman confirmed that one of the policemen had been asked to leave the private party after "an argument".

### Ring the changes

New BT telephone numbers for shopping and business services are launched this month. National call rate numbers beginning 0990 are being changed to 0870 as part of an industry-wide plan to make the cost of calls cheaper. The 0870 code for national services will apply to calls costing about 7p a minute.

### Klan man dead

A man who served a jail sentence over his recruitment material for the Ku Klux Klan was found hanged at his home in Calcot, Berkshire. Andrew Frain, 32, was sentenced to six months in 1996 for possessing racially inflammatory documents with a view to stirring up hatred. An inquest will be held.

### Screen debut

A water and dirt resistant windscreen featured in BMW in an April Fool's advertisement three years ago is being offered as an option on its 8-series models. A special solution diffuses into the screen surface and prevents water droplets joining to form a film. At speeds over 40mph the drops are blown away.

### Sea mail surprise

A postcard wrapped in polythene and put in the sea off North Foreland, Kent, in 1967 to test tidal movement has been returned. It was sent with the promise that the finder would be given half a crown (12.5p). Ferdinand Cosson, a German tourist, is to get his reward after finding the postcard in Denmark.

## Drivers would pay up to £5 a gallon

MOTORISTS would refuse to give up the comfort and convenience of their cars even if the Government were to raise the price of petrol to £5 a gallon (Kevin Eason writes).

A survey for The Times by Automational Rescue, the breakdown organisation, has discovered a nation wedded to its cars, no matter how difficult the journeys caused by congestion or the risks from pollution.

Seven in ten said they could not give up their cars "no matter what the cost". Surprisingly, motorists in towns and cities were most adamant with 72 per cent saying they could not give up, compared with 67 in rural areas.

And they threw up their hands in horror when asked whether they might consider walking to work. Only 80 of the 1,000 motorists questioned across the country said they would consider it. Cycling was no more popular: only one in ten said they would get on their bikes to solve congestion.

The survey gives a snapshot of the modern motorist only weeks before the Government's transport White Paper is expected to propose radical measures to curb the movement of cars in towns and cities while putting pressure on train operators to run better services.

Motorists want to go on using their cars, even for the shortest trips, according to the survey. Nine in ten use their cars for shopping and half for travelling to work, with a fifth needing the car for the daily school run.

In fact, the school run, blamed for largely increasing rush-hour congestion, painted a depressing picture of the attitudes of many car users: 65 per cent said they would send their children on a free bus, but a third said they would not under any circumstances.

Motorists' solutions to congestion and pollution also struck of leaving it to the Government. They wanted Parliament to improve public transport and make it cheaper, and force manufacturers to make more environmentally friendly and fuel-efficient vehicles. But most refused to contemplate daily life without the car.

## Christmas call by long-lost brother

BY PAUL WHITTAKER

FRANK BEALE, 74, thought there had been a death in the family when he was woken by a telephone call at 6.30am on Christmas Day. The caller left him reeling in shock, but the news was anything but bad.

The former Metropolitan Police officer was staggered to learn that the voice on the other end in Australia was the brother from whom he had not heard in 64 years. Mr Beale, of Mabley, near Leeds, had given up all hope of seeing his only brother, Patrick, again after they were separated following their mother's murder in 1934.

The long-lost brothers last saw each other when Frank was ten and Patrick, who now

lives near Perth, Western Australia, was three. Their mother, Lucy Covell, was killed by a boyfriend during an argument in Watford. Last year Patrick Covell, 67, turned to the Catholic Child Welfare Council in London to help to find his brother.

Frank Beale: "Both of us were taken into care after our mother was killed, and we were split up. I was taken in by my aunt and uncle but, sadly, they didn't have room for Patrick. I remember the poor little thing going off to a children's home in Southampton and that was the last I ever heard about him."

The brothers are planning a reunion in Australia.

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# Women given cosmetic surgery for Christmas

From nips and tucks to cataract removals, private hospitals face a busy new year, writes Ian Murray

HUNDREDS of women are going into hospital this month to collect their Christmas presents. A few painful days later, they hope to emerge looking better. The nips and tucks of cosmetic surgery have been one of the more unusual presents of the festive season. For some, it is a quick way to realise New Year's resolutions about losing weight. Bupa hospitals have been discreetly advertising their own version of Christmas cosmetic gifts, and they report that bookings for early January have risen by up to 15 per cent. Peter Fermoy, of Bupa, believes that cosmetic surgery makes "a

very perceptive and thoughtful Christmas present". However, he admitted that partners had to be extremely careful in choosing their words before offering such a gift. He added: "For those whose Christmas stockings are filled with varicose veins or cellulite, cosmetic surgery is proving an increasingly popular gift. Everything from top to toe is available." Every year about 70,000 people - 90 per cent of them women - have a "cosmetic procedure". A full facelift costs about £3,875. A double

breast augmentation costs £2,255 plus the price of the implants, depending on size and filling. Breast reductions are £3,315 for women or £2,500 for men. A new slimline look by means of an abdominoplasty, or stomach tuck, is £2,370. However, many doctors are quick to point out the potential risks of cosmetic surgery, emphasising that even the most skilled surgeons can not guarantee satisfaction. Barry Jones, a leading

plastic surgeon, has said that people should always approach their GPs for advice and be realistic: "The only surgeons who don't have complications are the ones who don't have operations." Popular operations, such as breast reduction and facelifts, can sometimes lead to vivid scarring, while even the smaller operations, such as eyelifts or collagen lip implants, can lead to irritation and extended soreness. Those who undergo liposuction, where fat is sucked from areas around the hips,

thighs and stomach, can be left with numbness and bumpy and irregular skin. Not all Christmas gift operations are for reasons of vanity. Long waiting lists mean that elderly people with cataracts can wait up to two years for an operation on the NHS that will help them to see properly again. The latest figures show that lists have grown for this operation by 13 per cent since June. As cataract removal is a low-priority operation, the looming winter crisis in hospitals inevitably

means that the time will get even longer. More than two thirds of people aged over 60 have a cataract, and about 150,000 have them removed every year, with a 95 per cent success rate. Some private clinics are now offering cataract gift vouchers so that family members can club together to pay for elderly relatives to see properly again. Surgicare, which runs clinics in Manchester, Birmingham and North London, sells them for £985.

Bookings have been brisk, with about 20 per cent more operations than usual just before Christmas. "When someone is in their seventies and unable to see properly, waiting for up to two years for a simple operation that can be done in a day and will put everything right is a very long time," Ian Waterman, of Surgicare, said. "Many older people are now opting to use their savings for the operation, but caring families are also collecting money between them to buy the operation for grandparents. The gift of sight is one of the best Christmas presents."

## Scientists 'see body parts as rich harvest'

BY A CORRESPONDENT

MEDICAL scientists are treating parts of the body as a raw material to be "mined and harvested", two American law professors said yesterday. Scientists were increasingly out of step with most people in the way they viewed the human body, said Lori Andrews and Dorothy Nelkin. "Organs, tissues and cells were all too often seen as impersonal objects to be used for research and commercial exploitation. This could be seen in the metaphors used by scientists. Writing in *The Lancet*, Professor Andrews, from Chicago-Kent College of Law, and Professor Nelkin, of New York University, said: "Body parts are extracted like a mineral, harvested like a crop, or mined like a resource. "Tissue can be 'procured' - a term that is more commonly used to refer to land, goods, or the prostitutes provided for a client. Cells, embryos or tissue can be frozen, banked, placed in libraries or repositories, marketed, patented, bought, or sold." One physician who patented a cell line referred to his Californian patient's body as a "gold mine". Pathologists had called a collection of 50,000 blood samples in the United States a "treasure trove". The professors said such an approach was misguided because for many people the

body and its parts had important symbolic meanings. Some people felt any use of their tissue violated their cultural or religious beliefs. Others were willing to donate their body parts but did not want to see them patented or commercially exploited. Some felt groups and individuals were entitled to financial compensation for the use of their body parts by scientists and companies. The divergence of attitudes between scientists and lay people had led to numerous conflicts and disputes, the professors said. The history of science was littered with examples of such disputes intensifying when scientists ignored public concerns. Scientists' defensive response to animal rights protests, for example, had increased opposition and eventually had an impact on research. Activists had become more radical, calling not only for regulation but the abolition of experiments with animals. The professors said: "The proliferation of disputes suggests that social conceptions of the body serve important purposes for individuals and society. Ignoring them may be hazardous - to the psychological wellbeing of individuals, to the maintenance of important social values, and to the future of science itself."



Chrissie Alsop, superintendent radiographer at the Manchester Royal Infirmary, with the 2,000-year-old mummy of a woman who died from a common parasitic disease

## Modern medicine reveals secrets of the tomb

The mummy of an Egyptian woman who died of bilharzia may help researchers to find a cure for the disease, reports Russell Jenkins

THE Egyptian mummy No 1766 appears young and beautiful in her ornate coffin, but modern science has revealed the ugly secret that she took to her tomb. In life she was a member of the upper middle class, but her privileged lifestyle was no barrier to a painful death from a common parasitic disease. Two thousand years after her death her remains have been subjected to a CT scan at Manchester Royal Infirmary as part of a project on bilharzia, which afflicts more than 300 million people in 79 countries. The Manchester University project is pioneering new techniques to trace the evolu-

tion of the disease over 5,000 or 6,000 years to guide research towards a successful cure. Such unlocking of the mummies' secrets is regarded as the next important stage in the study of the civilisation. The team, led by Rosalie David, 51, the university's Keeper of Egyptology, has 24 human and 34 animal mummies, including the body coffin of Khamm Nakht, complete with all its funerary artefacts, from the renowned

Tomb of the Two Brothers. The university has set up the first centre for biomedical studies in Egyptology. It is also the centre for the world's first ancient Egyptian tissue bank. Dr David, who carried out one of the last whole-body unwrappings in 1975, said: "The ancient Egyptians wanted to live forever and we are offering them a sort of eternity. The tissue bank will be a big resource for future studies not just into schistosomiasis (bilharzia) but other major diseases like malaria." The Manchester collection was the result of collaboration between Jesse Haworth, a wealthy textile merchant, and the celebrated Egyptologist Sir Flinders Petrie, for more than a decade up to the turn of the century. The latest phase of the team's work was prompted when an American medical company asked how schistosomiasis - caused by a waterborne worm-like parasite that can lead to chronic debilitation and death - had developed over the millennia. The resulting project, which, Dr David says, is the first epide-

miological study to trace the development of a disease over a 5,000-year period, is a combined effort with MSCI in Arlington, Virginia, and the Egyptian Ministry of Health. Mummy 1766, excavated from Hawara, was thought to be particularly promising because X-rays had revealed a calcified bladder, indicating the presence of the disease. Dr David said: "She is shown as young and beautiful, but this is the reality. The other side of the coin is that they had problems with a whole range of parasitic infections. They suffered physically." The CT scan enabled the team to examine the body without destroying the material.

Elsewhere scientists used a range of diagnostic tools to study small amounts of tissue. In recent weeks the team devised a method of diagnosing the disease using immunocytochemistry, a technique using fluorescent tags, bound to antibodies, to locate the disease. It is a world first. Dr David said: "The results will eventually be compiled for comparison with those of the Egyptian Ministry of Health. We will hopefully be able to see what happened to this disease, which social groups were worst hit and what was happening to the environment. It may give us an insight into how it should be attacked now."

## Rare gene resists HIV

SCIENTISTS have identified a genetic abnormality believed to help in making some people resistant to the Aids virus. The mutation, known as m303, was found in three of 309 healthy blood donors. In conjunction with the delta 32 genetic mutation, it is thought to bestow resistance to HIV infection. Caroline Guillemin and colleagues at the

Hospital of St Joseph in Paris claim that m303 prevents formation of a molecule that allows HIV activity. Tests on 18 men who remained uninfected despite unprotected sex with an HIV-positive partner revealed one who was totally resistant to the virus. He was found to have both the delta 32 and m303 mutations.

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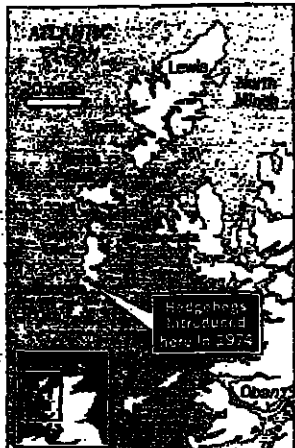


# Alien hedgehogs spread terror in the Hebrides

## Invaders' taste for eggs has added to the hazards facing endangered birdlife, writes Michael Hornsby

ECOLOGISTS are planning to evict an alien invader from remote Scottish islands where it is threatening the survival of important bird populations. The improbable subject of their concern is the hedgehog, which is multiplying on a Malthusian scale on the Outer Hebrides, unchecked by predators and in little danger of coming to a sticky end beneath the wheels of traffic. Introduced more than 20 years ago, the hedgehogs have developed a taste for the eggs of ground-nesting birds, among them the rare corncrake and large colonies of dunlins, lapwings, oystercatchers, ringed plovers and greystalks. David Minns, head of public affairs in Scotland for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), said: "There are estimated to be at least 10,000 hedgehogs on the island of South Uist alone.

There is no doubt they have contributed to a decline in bird numbers in recent years. "It is sad that an attractive and well-loved creature should have been plunked down in an unsuitable area and be causing problems. It is a classic example of the folly of transporting wildlife to places where it has not evolved in balance with other species." An inhabitant of Dalhousie, at the southern end of South Uist, is thought to have imported the first four hedgehogs to the islands in 1974 to control slugs. By 1993, the creatures had spread throughout South Uist and into Benbecula and North Uist, via the causeway linking all three islands. Now the RSPB and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), the Government's wildlife adviser, are discussing a plan to trap as many hedgehogs as possible and take them to



mainland. "Complete clearance is not practicable as there are so many rocks and crannies where hedgehogs can hide," Mr Minns said. "The aim would be to create hedgehog-free zones in core areas of the machair, the grassy plain that runs down the west coast of the islands and provides the main nesting sites for birds." In the early 1990s wildlife officials rounded up and flew back to mainland Scotland the proliferating descendants of a pair of hedgehogs imported to North Ronaldsay in the Ork-

ney Islands 20 years earlier. But there are far more hedgehogs on the Outer Hebrides. A survey by SNH scientists on South Uist between 1993 and 1995 suggested that in some areas the predators were destroying up to 10 per cent of bird's nests. Since then hedgehog predation is thought to have increased. "Radio-tagging has enabled us to follow the movements of individual hedgehogs and has shown clearly that they are wandering about the machair eating bird's nests," Mr Minns said. Corncrakes are particularly endangered. There are estimated to be fewer than 700 pairs in Britain, all confined to islands in the Inner and Outer Hebrides. Elusive at the best of times, the birds betray their presence mainly by the male's raucous call. Crofters have been paid grants to postpone cutting grass so as to avoid disturbing corncrake nests. This is thought to have helped to bring about a small recovery in corncrake numbers. But the uncut grass may also be providing good cover for hedgehogs.



The oft-squashed hedgehog has multiplied rapidly in the Outer Hebrides, where there are few vehicles

## Breast is best to avoid lung problems

By PAUL WHITTAKER

CHILDREN who have been bottle-fed as babies are almost twice as likely to suffer from respiratory illnesses as those who were breast-fed, according to new research. A study of 545 children between the ages of six and ten at Ninewells Hospital and Medical School in Dundee reinforces the health benefits of mother's milk. The study, published in the *British Medical Journal* today, also found that solid feeding before 15 weeks was associated with greater body fat and weight. The probability for the development of lung problems was 17 per cent for children exclusively breast-fed for at least 15 weeks, 31 per cent for those who were partially breast-fed, and 32.2 per cent for those wholly bottle-fed. Maximum blood pressure was raised significantly in children who were exclusively bottle-fed, compared with children who had breast milk. The findings, from a research team led by Stewart Forsyth, concluded: "The probability of respiratory illness occurring at any time during childhood is significantly reduced if the child is fed exclusively breast milk for 15 weeks and no solid foods are introduced during this time. Breast-feeding and the late introduction of solids may have a beneficial effect on childhood health and subsequent adult disease." Other studies have shown that breast-feeding protects babies from gastro-intestinal illnesses and respiratory infections. Current NHS guidelines recommend that babies be breast-fed exclusively for the first four months. Many mothers give up breast-feeding after the first few weeks. In 1985, 64 per cent of babies in Britain were breast-fed at birth, falling to 52 per cent at two weeks and to 39 per cent at six weeks.

## Women are the busiest royals

By A TIMES REPORTER

THE Princess Royal was the busiest member of the royal family last year, with the Queen her nearest rival, according to a survey of official engagements published in *The Times* today. The survey taken from the Court Circular shows the Princess Royal carried out 642 engagements at home and abroad, as against 600 by the Queen. The Duke of Edinburgh, who was the busiest in 1996, was third with 532, just ahead of the Prince of Wales who attended 513 official functions. The list does not include functions attended by Diana, Princess of Wales before her death. She was removed from the Court Circular after her divorce in 1996. The Royal Family's total of 3,820 engagements at home and overseas shows an increase of 108 from 1996. A quarter were on behalf of charities. Mr Tim O'Donovan, a retired insurance broker from Datchet, Berkshire, who compiles the survey, said: "This just shows how hard working the Royal Family really are." "Although they are all getting older, they are still very busy. The Queen Mother, at 97, carried out more engagements despite her continuing health problems. The Duke of York was able to carry out more engagements, 263, because he is now doing a desk job at the Ministry of Defence so is more available." Prince Edward carried out 183 engagements. He is busy with own television production company. Mr O'Donovan said: "Those who argue for a smaller Royal Family should look at the contribution made by the Queen's sister and her cousins with 41 per cent of the engagements in support of charities."

Letters, page 17

## Found: a job after 2,900 applications

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

A MAN who applied unsuccessfully for 2,900 jobs during 13 years of unemployment starts work today. Graham Hoskins, 50, from South Wales, attended hundreds of interviews but despaired of finding employment again. The £115 a week he will earn as a valet for a van hire company is more than twice the money he was collecting on the dole. Mr Hoskins, from Blacktown, near Newport, said: "I never gave up hope and I already feel as if some of my pride and dignity is returning." He was made redundant in his job as a storeman at a factory. Mr Hoskins, who looks after his disabled father, said: "I just kept getting rejections. It was really disheartening and, when I reached my 50th birthday, I thought I would never work again. My message to people who have been out of work for a long time is not to give up a



Hoskins urged others never to give up hope

job could be just around the corner." He joined his local Jobclub in 1987 and has been on its books longer than anyone else. Stephen Rondel, the manager, said: "We are thrilled that Graham has landed a job after all this time. He had a week's trial and they gave him the job on the spot." Alan Thomas, assistant manager at Halo Van Hire, said: "We are delighted to give Graham a chance."

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# Asian 'tigers' face return to law of jungle

MALAYSIANS must be willing to make sacrifices to defend their currency during 1998, or face the prospect of "recolonisation", says Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister.

Showing that his views had changed little on East Asia's current financial crisis, the Malaysian leader, 71, said: "The world will not show any sympathy and offer their hand to us because we are facing economic pressure. The laws of the jungle are rampant."

Dr Mahathir, who had previously blamed the financier George Soros, other unnamed "speculators" and a "Jewish agenda" for Malaysia's problems, said the fall in the currency's value had made Malaysians poorer. Not only was their freedom to run the economy at stake, but their political freedom too.

Since the onset of the Asian economic crisis in June, the value of Malaysia's currency, the ringgit, has fallen by 35 per cent against the dollar, and the value of shares on Kuala Lumpur's stock market has plunged by 40 per cent.

The fiery Malaysian Prime Minister was not the only East Asian leader anticipating increased hardship and sacrifice. The short-term outlook for the "tiger" economies, ana-



Malaysia's Dr Mahathir, left, sees a risk of economic turmoil leading to "recolonisation", James Pringle writes

lysts agree, is gloomy: frugal Singapore and the Philippines, it seems, are the only states likely to avoid the worst of the troubles.

In South Korea, one of the countries hardest hit, President-elect Kim Dae Jung said the new year marked the start of the state's "most difficult time since the Korean War". It was "standing at a crossroads between catastrophe and rebirth", he said yesterday.

In Thailand, where the crisis started with the fall of the baht, King Bhumibol Adulyadej said there were no signs that the economy would recover in 1998. "You must lead a life of austerity, be conscious, patient and work harder for the nation," he said.

A similar message came from President Suharto of Indonesia. "We are fighting hard to overcome this difficult time," he said. "The Government has clear programmes to get over the turmoil."

Hinting at the danger of possible strife between ethnic

Indonesians and the country's more prosperous Chinese minority, President Suharto said: "In these uneasy times, the strength that must be relied on is national unity."

In Hong Kong, Tung Chee-hwa, the Chief Executive, toured markets where more than a million chickens have been killed in an effort to stamp out the avian flu virus. The outbreak is bound to damage tourism further.

Even in heavily controlled China, there are growing indications of economic slowdown. Just before the new year, Li Peng, the Prime Minister, admitted he was unable to help redundant workers or to reduce poverty among 50 million Chinese. "State enterprises are still in a difficult situation," he said.

China has pledged not to devalue the yuan this year, but some insiders say that this may become necessary by April to meet the challenge of regional rivals whose products are now cheaper.



An early visitor inspects a newly opened stretch of the Great Wall. The two and a half mile section, which passes through the Juyongguan Pass, reopened yesterday after being closed for repairs for five years. In Beijing, President Jiang Zemin and Li Peng, the Prime Minister, joined 10,000 people for a new year gala concert given by the China, Shanghai and Beijing Symphony Orchestras in the Great Hall of the People

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Pol Pot was being held under house arrest

## Pol Pot 'has fled to haven in China'

FROM CAROLINE GLUCK IN PHNOM PENH

POL POT, the former Khmer Rouge leader, is reported to have left the northern Cambodian jungle, where he was under house arrest, and gone to China.

According to General Nhiek Bun Chay, the opposition commander loyal to Prince Norodom Ranariddh, Cambodia's ousted Co-Prime Minister, the move was aimed at preventing Pol Pot from facing an international tribunal for his crimes against humanity. However, the general could not give any details about the circumstances surrounding Pol Pot's alleged departure.

General Nhiek, whose troops have entered into a de facto alliance with the Khmer Rouge in fighting the Government of Hun Sen, the Prime Minister, also claimed that at the same time as Pol Pot left Cambodia, Ta Mok, the guerrilla group's defence chief, had held talks in Thailand with a Chinese diplomat.

Both claims have been strongly denied by an official at the Chinese Embassy in Phnom Penh. Senior Cambodian government officials also dismissed the reports, saying the opposition forces were simply trying to provoke trouble.

China was formerly a close backer of the Khmer Rouge movement, providing military and financial aid. But after the signing of the 1991 Paris peace agreement, direct Chinese support for the guerrilla faction ended. Beijing quickly recognised the new, look-Cambodian coalition Government after Prince Ranariddh was ousted in a coup.

## Alarm on Right as students turn to sex studies

UNDERGRADUATES at the University of Virginia sculpt genitalia from Play-Doh; students at the State University of New York are lectured by sado-masochists; at Brown University, academics are giving classes on homosexuality in the animal kingdom.

Half a century after the field was invented by a soft-spoken biology professor from the Midwest named Alfred Kinsey, the study of sexuality is booming in America.

Gone are the days when sex education provoked giggles at the back of the classroom. Courses on sex can now be found at many big universities, under rubrics ranging from the innocuous "gender studies" to the extravagant "queer histories" at Yale.

Hobart and William Smith Colleges in upstate New York have begun offering degrees in the new discipline of "men's studies", using Hollywood films to examine such topics as date rape, homophobia and domestic violence.

The University of Minnesota is setting up a Centre for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Studies with an endowment of \$500,000 (£300,000). The University of Iowa plans a certificate programme in sexuality; and Hampshire College in Massachusetts is offering "Queer Lives", a postmodern version of Mods and Greats.

Across America, PhD students are devoting themselves to such subjects as the semiotics of stripping. The pioneering Centre for Lesbian and Gay Studies at the City University of New York boasts on its faculty Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, the wife of an ophthalmologist who earned notoriety with a paper to the

### Kinsey's heirs are thriving in American universities, James Bone reports from New York

Modern Language Association entitled *Jane Austen and the Masturbating Girl*.

The surge in sexuality studies has come under attack from conservatives as an open invitation to a misspent youth. The State University of New York provoked outrage recently when it invited sado-masochists to a sex conference.

Roger Kimball, managing editor of the monthly *New Criterion*, denounced the decision in the pages of *The Wall Street Journal* under the headline "Syllabus for Sickos" and George Pataki, the Republican Governor of New York State, joined the attack.

The climate is sufficiently hostile for some universities to take precautions to protect their graduates. Brown University's course on "Queers and Culture" is described on report cards, for instance, as "Identities-Communities" in order not to offend potential employers. Yale recently refused a \$7 million offer by the gay playwright Larry Kramer to fund a gay studies professorship.

Kinsey's intellectual heirs are not necessarily flattered by their imitators. Dr John Bancroft, the British medical researcher who now runs the Kinsey Institute at Indiana University, laments that many of the new courses lack scientific rigour. "There is still a lack of good, basic research into the fundamentals of human sexualities," he told *The New York Times*.

Kinsey, the author of reports on the sexual habits of American men (1948) and women (1953), has come under scrutiny. James Jones, a professor at the University of Houston, has just published a biography claiming that the founding father of sex studies filmed his assistants having intercourse, had sex with multiple partners and indulged in homosexual affairs.



Kinsey, pioneer has come under scrutiny

Leading article, page 17

## New avian flu case confirmed

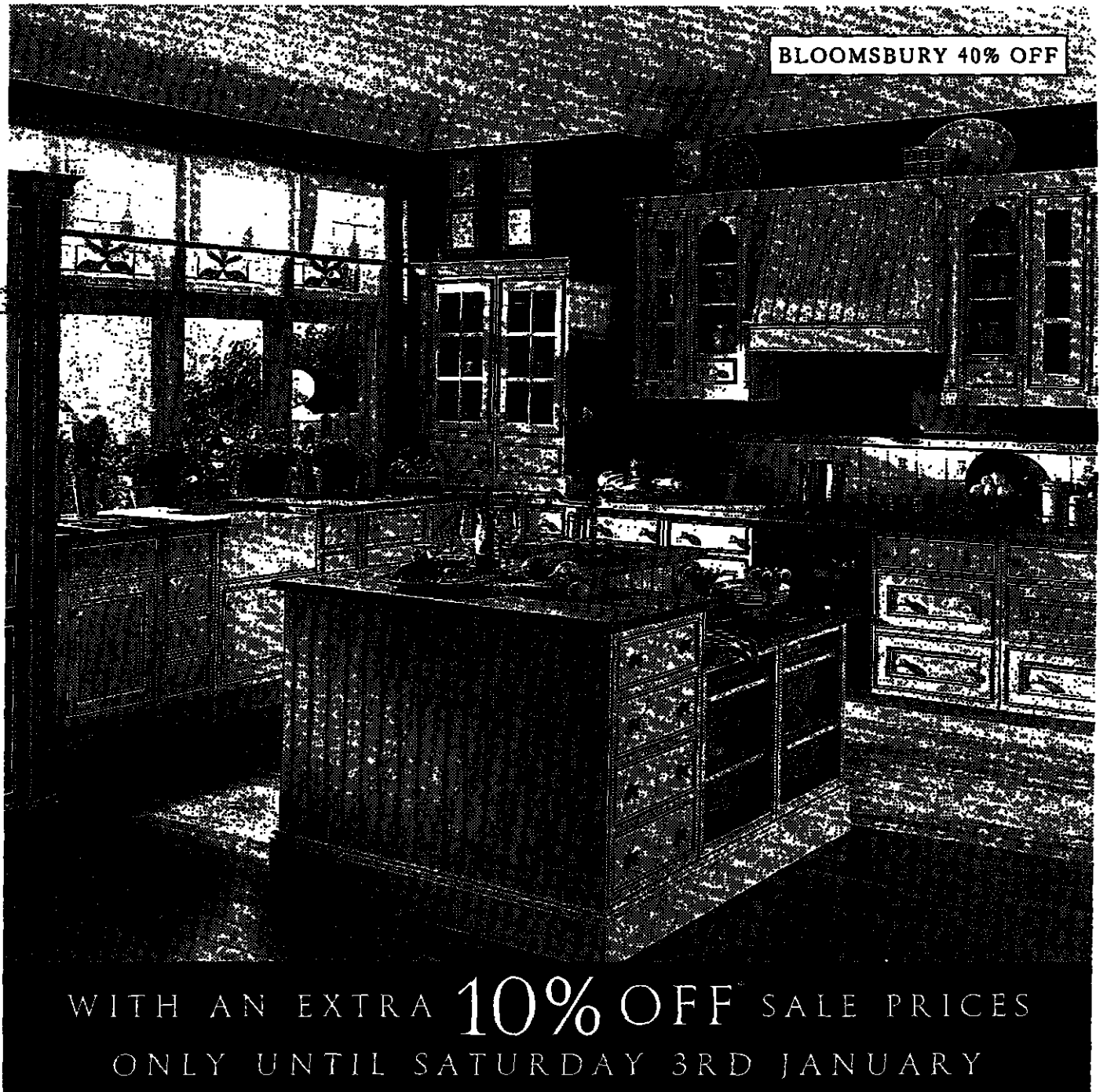
Hong Kong: The slaughter of more than a million chickens was completed here yesterday as a new case of avian flu was confirmed and other countries showed rising concern. Officials said more than 1.4 million chickens, geese, pigeons and quails had their throats slit or were gassed in the three-day operation intended to halt the spread of the H5N1 virus, which has killed four people. A govern-

ment spokesman said the disinfecting of farms, wholesale markets and retail outlets was continuing.

In addition to the four dead, there are now ten confirmed cases of avian flu and six suspected cases. The latest confirmed case is a 14-year-old girl whose condition was satisfactory in hospital, a government spokesman said. The Government says it has a contingency plan for any

epidemic, but the *South China Morning Post* quoted government sources as saying the next ten days would be crucial in establishing the scale of the crisis. There is growing international concern over the virus, only detected in birds until a three-year-old boy became the first human fatality last May. The United Arab Emirates is the latest country to ban poultry from China and Hong Kong. (AFP)

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# French jobless protests herald grim new year

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

THE much discussed malaise afflicting France was vividly illustrated over the new year as discontent with high levels of unemployment erupted into unrest and violence among poor youths, the unemployed and homeless.

Trouble flared on New Year's Eve as youths rampaged through poor suburbs. The unrest reached its peak in Strasbourg in eastern France, when young people set fire to 53 cars and destroyed 21 telephone boxes and 32 bus shelters.

Home-made bombs damaged several public buildings in the city, including a gymnasium, college, primary school and community centre. Riot police were called in to break up gangs of youths and children, some as young as ten, and twelve people were arrested. The violence brought the tally of cars set alight in the city this

year to 570. More alarm bells over the growing discontent among France's "excluded" have also rung with the widespread protest by frustrated job seekers, who began occupying unemployment offices three weeks ago. They are demanding an end-of-year bonus of Fr3,000 (£300) and pressing Lionel

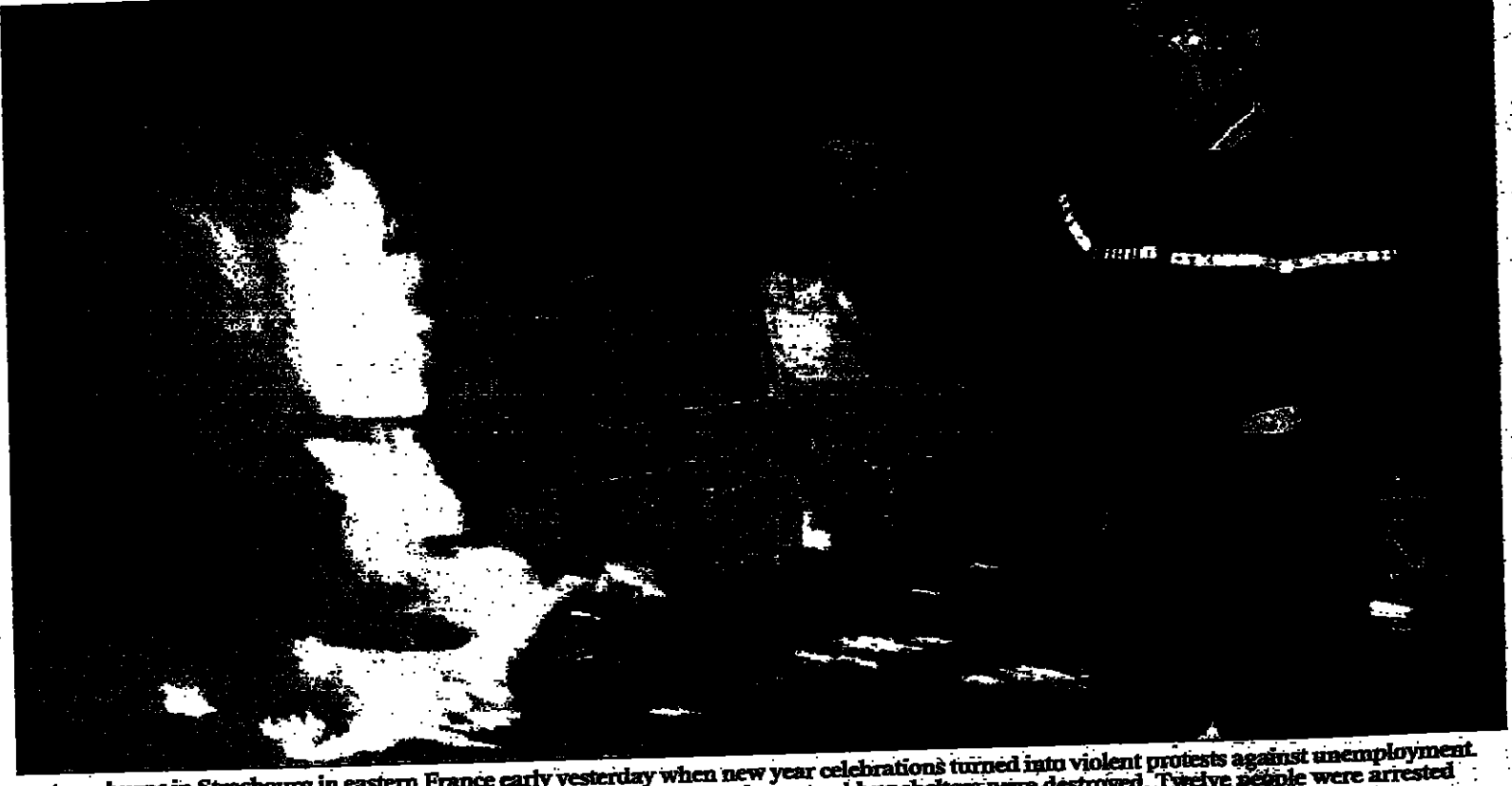
## Paris honours pop and skiing

Paris French pop singers Mireille Mathieu and Sylvie Vartan, along with World Cup ski champion Luc Alphand, were among those awarded France's Legion of Honour marking the new year yesterday. The award, created by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802, is handed out by presidential decree. (AFP)

Jospin, the Prime Minister, to fulfil his election promise to provide new relief to the long-term unemployed. To provide such a bonus would cost M.Jospin's Government a total of £1 billion, a sum he can ill afford to spend as he keeps a tight rein on the budget in order to qualify for European Economic and Monetary Union.

"Martine Aubry [the Employment Minister] is offering an increase in welfare of Fr2 a day. It is an insult," said Laurent Guillobeau, a member of a solidarity group for the unemployed which has called for a national day of protest on January 16.

Protesters celebrated new year at the 14 unemployment offices they have occupied around the country. Earlier in the week, demonstrators in Marseille, where unemployment is above the national



A car burns in Strasbourg in eastern France early yesterday when new year celebrations turned into violent protests against unemployment. Marauding gangs of young people set fire to cars and telephone boxes and bus shelters were destroyed. Twelve people were arrested.

average, barricaded the railway lines delaying thousands of holiday travellers.

On New Year's Eve, 60 homeless people stormed the five-star Royal Monceau Hotel on the Champs Elysées. The manager offered them Fr10,000 to leave quietly, but

the homeless threw the notes on the floor. The attempted occupation was broken up by the police amid scuffles. An occupation of Fouquets, one of the city's most famous restaurants, ended peacefully after the management promised to send 40 meals to a nearby

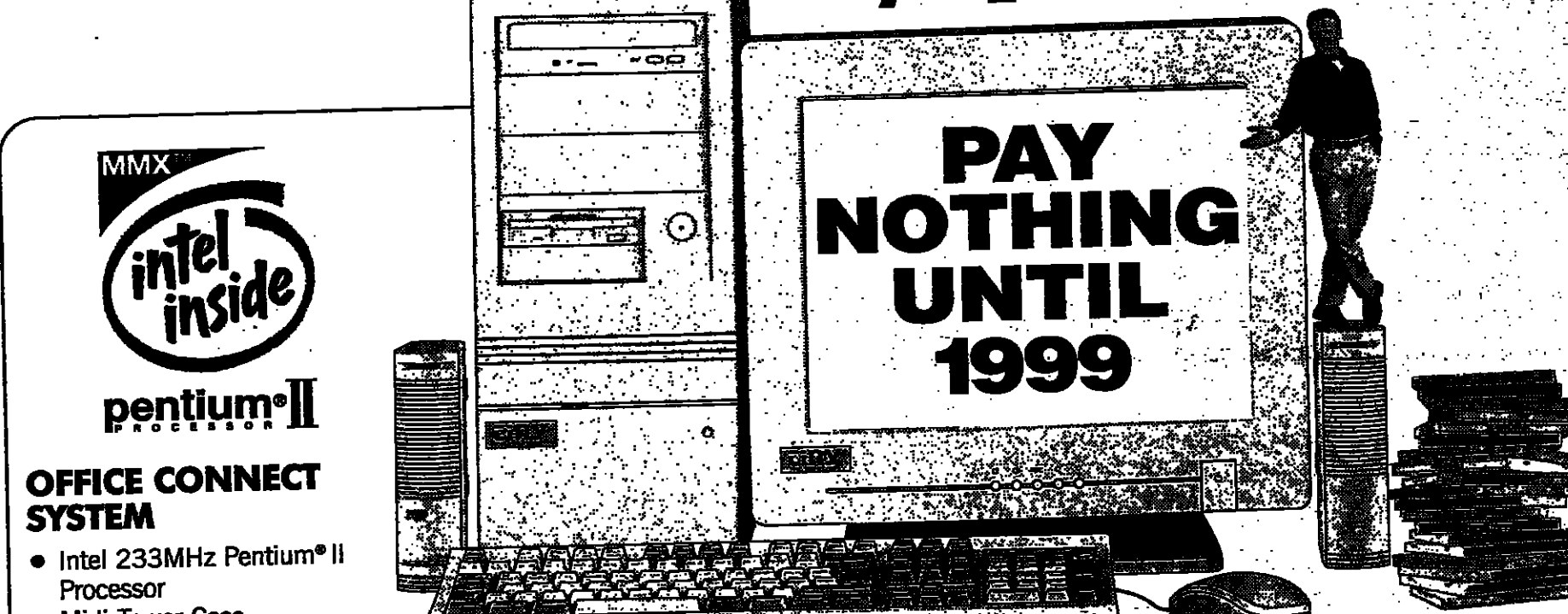
welfare centre temporarily occupied by the homeless. In recent weeks, more than a dozen cities have suffered transport strikes by drivers protesting against attacks on their colleagues in poor neighbourhoods of such normally calm cities as Rheims

and Orleans. As the stories of discord multiply, *Le Monde* warned the Government this week that it could be facing "an open revolt by society's sacrificial victims". Christian de Boissieu, a professor of economics at the Sorbonne, agreed. "In France, the most

uncontrollable protests are ones that start from the bottom. That is where it is most dangerous," he said, referring to the student uprisings of 1968 and the railway workers' protests of 1995.

Leading article, page 17

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EXETER	SHEFFIELD	

## American debt row threatens finances at UN

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

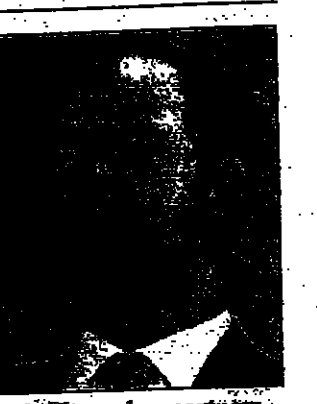
A DEADLOCK between the European Union and the United States is threatening the financial future of the United Nations as it enters its new fiscal year. America had demanded that its share of the UN's administrative budget be cut from 25 per cent to 22 per cent this year. But European nations refused even to discuss the reduction unless Washington made good its billion-dollar debt to the world organisation, which it failed to do.

The result is that the UN began its fiscal year yesterday facing a likely 3 per cent shortfall in its annual budget, with Washington's debt still unpaid. The cash crunch could mean eventually that UN salaries will go unpaid. Some UN officials, mindful of the popular backlash against the Republican-dominated Congress after it closed down the US Government in a budget-cutting exercise in 1995, argue that the UN should dramatise its plight to the American people by shutting its doors temporarily for lack of funds. But Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General, opposes such theatrics.

The crisis was caused by the failure of the US Congress to approve a deal repaying about \$936 million (£560 million) of Washington's \$1.3 billion debt to the UN in return for a reduction of its contributions to the UN budget first to 22 per cent and then, by 2000, to 20 per cent.

The deal collapsed when Chris Smith, a Republican congressman from New Jersey, inserted unrelated provisions insisting that no US government money should be used to fund abortions overseas, wording unacceptable to the Clinton Administration. President Clinton has promised to try to revive the package next month by passing a supplemental appropriation through Congress. But some Republican lawmakers ever be approved. In the meantime, the EU, which would have to make up much of the shortfall caused by any drop in American dues, has dug in its heels.

The damaging stalemate comes as a blow to Mr Annan, who was elected with strong backing from Washington for his programme of UN reform. Mr Annan recently secured passage of a UN budget totalling \$2.53 billion over the next two years, a \$76-million dollar cut over the previous two years.



Cook: urging partners to follow weapons lead

## Britain to press EU for code on arms exports

By MICHAEL BRYNEN DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE Government is preparing to press Labour's new moral foreign policy on its European partners with plans to enforce an arms export code. In an early initiative of the British presidency, Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, is to urge all EU members to follow Britain's lead in tightening criteria for arms exports and thus deny weapons to countries violating human or democratic rights.

Mr Cook has told campaigners that France, a strong competitor in arms exports, has agreed not to seek new markets in countries denied weapons by Britain. Officials in Brussels, however, were doubtful that either France or Belgium would pass up the opportunity to increase their arms sales.

The move comes after calls by Oxford, Safer World and other governmental organisations for a tough EU code of conduct to prevent weapons going to repressive regimes. Mr Cook announced new regulations for exports in July, which will form the kernel of a European code to be negotiated over the next six months. This would ban the sale of all arms that could be used for internal repression or aggression on neighbouring states.

All 15 EU member states would have to agree a common system of legally binding end-use controls. This would ensure that arms were not exported to one country and then sent on to another with a poor human rights record. Next week Mr Cook will launch the publication in Britain of a study by an American foundation of ways to prevent conflict. The Carnegie Commission report looks at the conflicts in Rwanda, Bosnia and more than 40 other nations in the 1990s. A key finding is the key role of Western arms sold or smuggled to militants and insurgents.

John Lloyd, page 16

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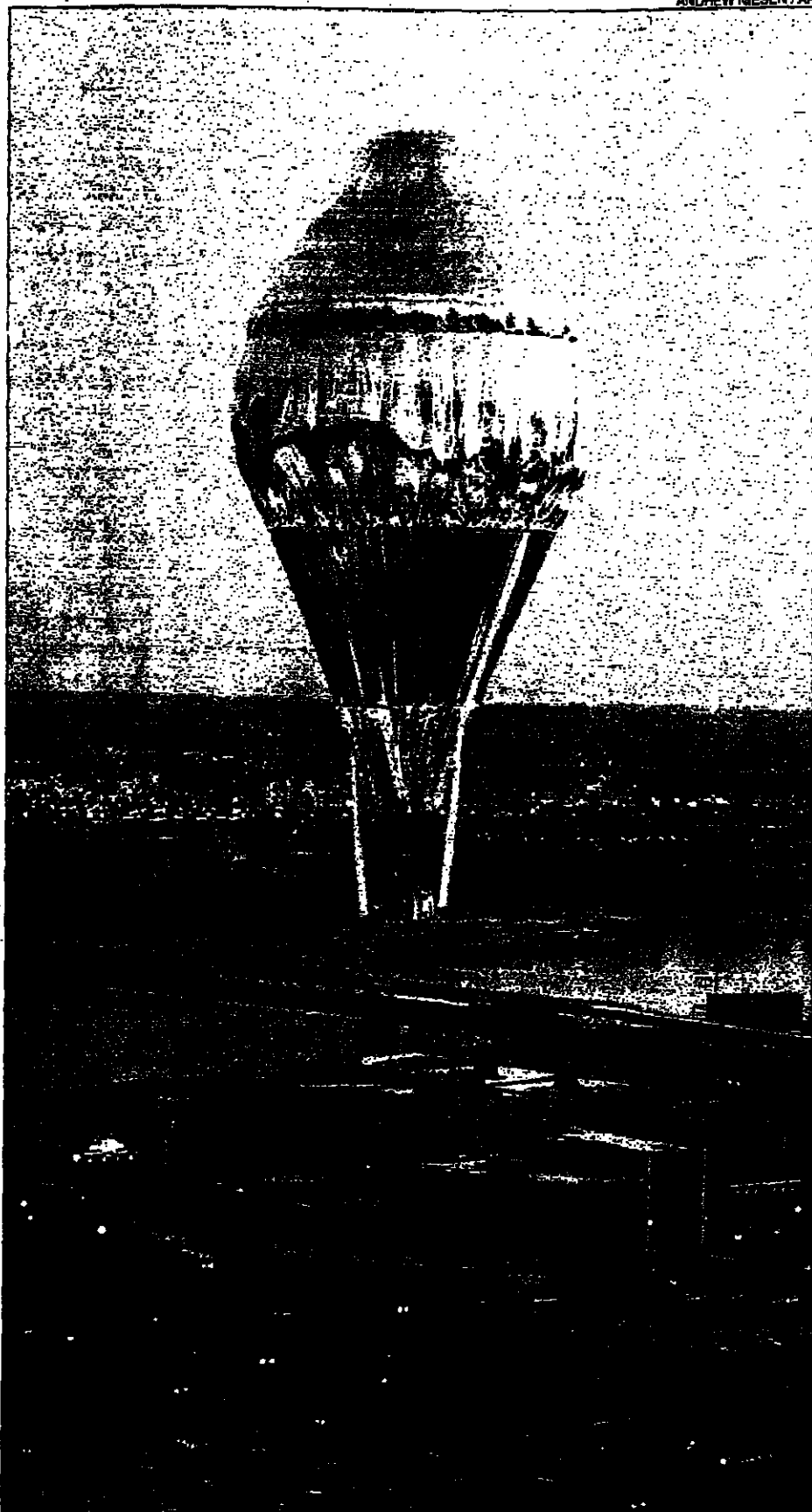
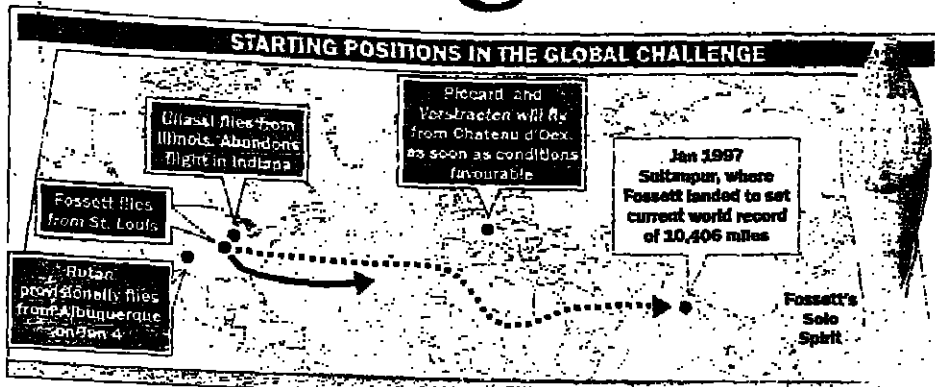
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# The great balloon race lifts off



Steve Fossett's Solo Spirit heads over the Mississippi soon after lifting off from Busch Stadium in St Louis, Missouri, on his attempt to fly around the world

## Swiss adventurer casts his spell on orbiting partner

FROM PETER CAPELLA IN GENEVA

TOP British engineering, experienced balloonists, a dynasty of adventurers and a dose of hypnosis form the backbone of the challenge by *Breilung Orbiter 2*, which is waiting for the right conditions to lift off from the Alps. Bertrand Piccard and Wim Verstraeten, *Orbiter's* crew, say that high-altitude jet-stream winds are unlikely to turn in their favour before Tuesday.

Their flight last year ended in near-disaster after fumes from a paraffin leak in the gondola's heating system forced them to ditch in the Mediterranean within hours of take-off from Chateau d'Oex. The gondola has been redesigned by Andy Elson, a British flight engineer, to limit the impact of minor failures such as the faulty Sp washer that ruined their last attempt. The pressurised cabin recently underwent successful testing in France.

Mr Elson, a record breaker in his own right with the first crossing of Mt Everest by balloon in 1991, is credited with the development of the special burners needed to fly at altitudes above 30,000ft. Like two of the other main contenders, the silver-coloured balloon will be swept along at speeds of up to 125mph by winds in the northern hemisphere. The flight plan aims for a spectacular take-off from a snow-covered valley at dawn. *Orbiter* will then head southeast towards Turkey and Afghanistan, cross the Gobi desert towards the Korean peninsula, the Pacific Ocean, the United States and return across the Atlantic.



Bertrand Piccard, left, the Swiss balloonist, and his co-pilot, Wim Verstraeten, during final tests

## US millionaire begins third solo endeavour

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

AN AMERICAN millionaire has begun his third attempt to become the first person to fly non-stop around the world in a hot-air balloon.

Steve Fossett lifted off from the Busch Stadium in St Louis, Missouri, at 5.04pm local time on Wednesday. At a brief press conference before his ascent, he forecast "a solid trajectory across the Atlantic towards Portugal", expecting to reach Europe tomorrow. Mr Fossett, whose project has cost \$350,000 (£210,000), said: "It's a very difficult challenge, but I have a reasonable chance. This is a dangerous endeavour, but I'm willing to take some risk to achieve it. He then climbed into his balloon, *Solo Spirit*, waved to the assembled throng, and lifted off.

He must hope for better luck than his rival, Kevin Uliassi. Taking off at 8.45pm on Wednesday from Rockford, Illinois, Mr Uliassi's attempt to circumnavigate the globe came to an abrupt halt only two hours and 15 minutes later, when a burst helium container on board his balloon caused him to abort his flight 100 miles south of Chicago.

The *Solo Spirit* telephone hotline reports, however, that Mr Fossett's systems "are at 100 per cent". He has chosen to fly at a consistent height of 20,000ft, and is travelling at 74 knots. In contrast to the more high-tech efforts of his various competitors, Mr Fossett is flying solo in an unpressurised capsule which will expose him to the rigours of high altitude and cold. Mr Fossett

already holds the record for the longest uninterrupted flight by hot-air balloon. He set it a year ago this month when he flew 10,406 miles over six days, two hours and 44 minutes. On that attempt to fly around the world - his second - he also became the first to fly solo in a balloon across the African continent.

Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the leader of Libya, denied Mr Fossett permission to fly over his country, forcing a lengthy detour. This wasted valuable fuel, and Mr Fossett had to abort his flight in a wheat field near Sultanpur, in the north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh.

On his new journey, Mr Fossett is expected to cross the Atlantic to Portugal, veer northeast to Britain, and then head southeast over Europe to Ukraine. He will then navigate east over Russia, Kazakhstan and China, then cross southern Japan. The track across the Pacific is northeast

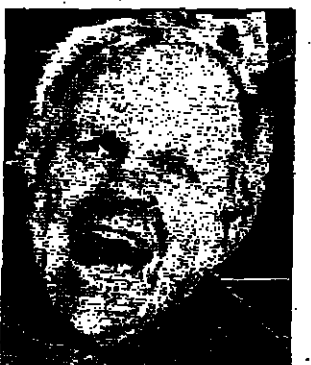
to British Columbia, and finally to a landing north of St Louis. An analysis of weather patterns has shown that there should be favourable conditions almost throughout the journey. Mr Fossett will survive on military-style MREs (meals ready to eat) with chemical heating pouches. His balloon has a bunk with a sleeping bag and he will use a bucket as a lavatory. This will be emptied over the side.

Balding, paunchy and 52, Mr Fossett has swum the English Channel, run the Boston Marathon, attempted to climb Mount Everest, driven a Porsche in the Le Mans and Daytona 24-hour races, taken part in the Paris-Dakar rally, and sailed a trimaran non-stop around Britain and Ireland.

As a somewhat effete boy, he was warned off sport in school, which instilled in him the lifelong need to prove himself physically. In a recent interview, he said: "People spend a lot of time watching sports, but I've set a priority of participating in them."

Later this month, the veteran American balloonists Dick Rutan and David Melton are expected to lift off from Albuquerque, New Mexico, in *Global Hilton* in their attempt to circumnavigate the globe.

The Washington University Information Hotline for the *Solo Spirit* Around the World Balloon Flight, 00-1-314-935-0014, provides periodic updates on Mr Fossett's journey. The official Website is at <http://tacoma.wustl.edu/>



Fossett: already holds balloon flight records

## Virgin boss wishes rival bon voyage

RICHARD BRANSON yesterday sent a message of good luck to Steve Fossett in his attempt to circumnavigate the world non-stop, but the Virgin chief warned his rival that he still expects to be the one to clinch the record.

A dislocated shoulder and a rather deflated hot-air balloon have not dampened the spirits of Mr Branson. He is confident that Mr Fossett will not be able to cope with the long hours and

difficulties of a non-stop solo voyage. Together with his co-pilots Per Lindstrand and Rory McCarthy, Mr Branson is planning another attempt at the journey in the *Virgin Global Challenger* by January 18.

Will Whitehorn, a spokesman for Mr Branson, said: "Richard wishes him luck for his attempt but we still think we have the best technology to get around the world. He thinks that it is very

difficult to fly solo and manage to stay awake. There are so many things to deal with."

Mr Branson, who was humiliated when his balloon took off without him from Morocco last month, still says he is confident he will be the first to get the record. "The Virgin balloon is being rebuilt," said Mr Whitehorn. "With little sleep and less control, we think Fossett won't be able to manage it."

## Moi heads for easy victory in Kenya's chaotic elections

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN NAIROBI

PRESIDENT MOI was being tipped for an early victory in Kenya's general election last night. However, results giving him a strong showing in key areas were condemned as rigged and flawed by opposition candidates.

With more than half the votes counted last night, the 73-year-old President had a lead of more than 200,000 votes, polling about 1.5 million to the 1.3 million for his nearest rival, Mwai Kibaki, with other candidates trailing far behind. The opposition continued to put on a brave face but many observers said Mr Moi's victory was certain.

"We believe that we shall win the ongoing elections despite all odds," said Mr Kibaki and the two other leading candidates, Raila Odinga and Michael Wamalwa, in a joint statement read at a news conference. There had been speculation that the conference would announce that the opposition was uniting behind one candidate, but in the end little was said and now it is probably too late.

To secure an outright victory Mr Moi needs the highest number of votes and at least 25 per cent of the vote in five of the eight provinces. Results last night showed that he had secured three provinces and was making a strong showing in key areas of the others.

Britain has condemned the conduct of the chaotic elections and opposition leaders have said that an outright victory by Mr Moi would not be acceptable to the people and could precipitate violence. Mr Odinga and Mr Kibaki have

claimed that the Electoral Commission is controlled by the security forces which helped to rig the ballot. Opposition parties are threatening to take to the streets in protest.

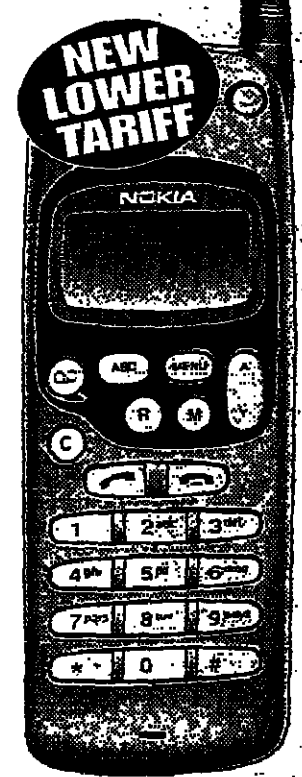
The warnings of potential conflict come as tensions remain high in many counting centres where opposition supporters, already suspicious of long delays and confusion during two days of voting, doubted that the results would reflect their wish for change.

Supporters of the ruling party clashed with opposition party agents at a counting hall in Nairobi yesterday after presidential results were declared, showing that Mr Kibaki had received 500 more votes than Mr Moi. Kanu supporters hurled chairs and shouted angrily as riot police stood by.

The tension has been heightened by conflicting unofficial results from broadcasters and newspapers. The results have shown Mr Moi way ahead in his Rift Valley province, Kenya's most populous, with the opposition doing well in the Central province and western Kenya.

The polls have been dogged by irregularities, bribery and intimidation as well as by delays and confusion, prompting opposition candidates to suggest there can be no legitimacy for any government that emerges. But if, as expected, the final results show that Mr Moi has won himself another and final five-year term, the opposition will have to shoulder at least some of the blame for its failure to agree on a unity candidate.

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# A good foundation



## HOT TIP

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## Objects of desire



■ Raspberry Cashmere camisole, £331, by Clements Ribeiro, (0171-409 7719). Last season Clements Ribeiro's nude embroidered tank was a sell-out before it appeared in the magazines. For summer this is the one to get. Buy it as soon as it comes into the shops.

■ Three-part prayer ring, £1,150, by Jess James, 3 Newburgh Street, W1 (0171-437 0199). This ring is available for both men and women, in matt gold and platinum. It comes in the most exquisite polished walnut round case and is very calming. It is interactive and allows you to fiddle with the moving panels on the ring without appearing nervous.

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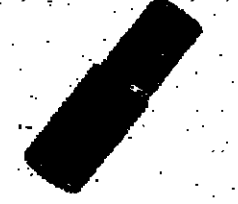
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This was great. It felt smooth on my skin, leaving it glowing but looking natural. It also had a sweet smell and simple packaging. .... 8/10  
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Slightly old-fashioned packaging — but an amazing product. It spreads easily, even on dry skin. Disappears into skin — but evens out redness, blemishes etc. .... 9/10

## 'I added my normal dose of eyeliner and lipstick and turned into a geisha'

Once had a friend called Violet who looked just like Dame Edith Sitwell. Like the poet, Violet lived up to her pointy Gothic looks with verve, swishing around the chilly courtyards and gloomy alleys of the city where we lived wearing yards of ghostly lace and trailing black velvet. To her mother, however, Violet's appearance was a source of dismay. The mother, in youth, had looked like Doris Day, which was what she considered a woman should look like. She was always trying to get Violet to cheer up her look — cut her hair, have some highlights done and a root perm to give it body. And what about some blusher, or a nice French manicure? On Violet's 30th birthday her mother put her foot down. "Violet," she said, "Youth is not on your side. Art must supply what nature no longer can."

What she had in mind was foundation — that beige glop, the wearing of which is a rite of passage into womanhood. It is a substance with which I, like Violet, have never really got to grips. This is partly for practical reasons — I never managed to find a foundation that didn't come up a garish orange when applied to the greenish pallor that is, even in perfect health, my natural colouring. But also, I never quite conquered a vague feeling of distaste at the notion that, were I to fall into a chap's arms and press my face to his heart, I might be in danger of leaving my complexion all over his waistcoat.

So while I took enthusiastically to every other sort of make-up, and would sooner leave off my drawers than my lipstick, the only help my skin gets is a bit of translucent powder. I love powder compacts; they are a perfect cross between a toy and a piece of jewellery.

Still, it is never too late to change one's look, and foundation technology has developed a good deal since my last experiments with orange goo. These days, foundations have high sun protection factors, to stop wrinkles from forming; and moisturisers, to treat the wrinkles that have already arrived; and light-diffusing particles, to distract attention from the wrinkles that are beyond help.

Nowadays they even make foundations for girls with green skin.

So here, at long last, was my passport to womanhood, in the form of Estée Lauder's Enlighten in Liquid Pearl, with SPF 10. "Looks like nothing on. Covers like nothing else..." it said on the bottle. "Shake. Glide on with fingertips." I shook. Nothing happened. I shook harder. A splat of pale pink stuff shot out. I fielded it and glided, as instructed. Then I looked in the mirror.

The first surprise was that it was — subtly, but unmistakably — glittery. The second was that my features had disappeared. I looked like a seal pup in a snowstorm — beady eyes peering anxiously out of a blank expanse of frosty white. I added my normal dose of eyeliner and lipstick, and turned into a geisha — extremely glam, but unearthly. You wouldn't want to go out in daylight looking like that. I rang a more sophisticated friend for advice. "Everything's disappeared," I complained. "No violet under-eye circles. No hollows under the cheekbones. I don't look like me." "Precisely," said my friend. "The point of foundation is to create a blank canvas."

So now, having got to this stage, I must paint in a new set of features, rather like those I have just blotted out, but better. And I must lay off the black eyeliner and bright lipstick unless I want to look like RuPaul plays Maria Callas.

An article in this month's *Vogue* explains the effect I should be aiming for: "The distinction between natural made and chic nude," it says, "is [is] obvious. It's the difference between a cup of instant and a delicious café au lait." It has to be said that for all my shading, sculpting and defining, my new *maquillage*, while reasonably chic, is anything but natural, and still, somehow, not quite me. Also, it takes 20 times longer to apply than a flick with a powder-puff. But clearly, I am just at the beginning of a long process of learning. Pass the percolator.

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COMPILED BY DEBORAH BRETT



# Flashmans need not apply

Three generations of Wykehamists tell Harry Stourton why they support boarding. Bill Frost hears why one Rugby pupil does not



**FENN CHAPMAN**, the public schoolboy who ran away from Rugby School, in Warwickshire, and took a charter flight to Barbados to review his life, is now back with his family and resolved to resume an academic career. His highly publicised disappearance brought the teenager instant celebrity and set Fleet Street on his tail.

The 16-year-old fled to the Caribbean in late November, having raised the fare by selling his stereo system and CD collection to friends, and returned in late December.

His mother, Christine, told *The Times* that the family had enjoyed Christmas at their home near Ilkley, Yorkshire. "Fenn is back and looking forward to life; he is fine after his time away and we are all very glad he has returned."

Mrs Chapman added that her son would "almost certainly" be returning to Rugby when the new term began and that the Christmas and new year holiday had been "great". Fenn was unavailable for comment.

In November he explained why he fled Rugby: "I'm just a teenager who needed to sort himself out — I don't think what I have done is exceptional."

"I hope I haven't let anyone down. My parents might have felt let down, though Mum said she thought something like this might happen. If I hadn't gone I would have let myself down."

"I wasn't getting on at Rugby. I just didn't like it. I'm not saying it's Rugby in particular. I don't think I would send my children to public school."

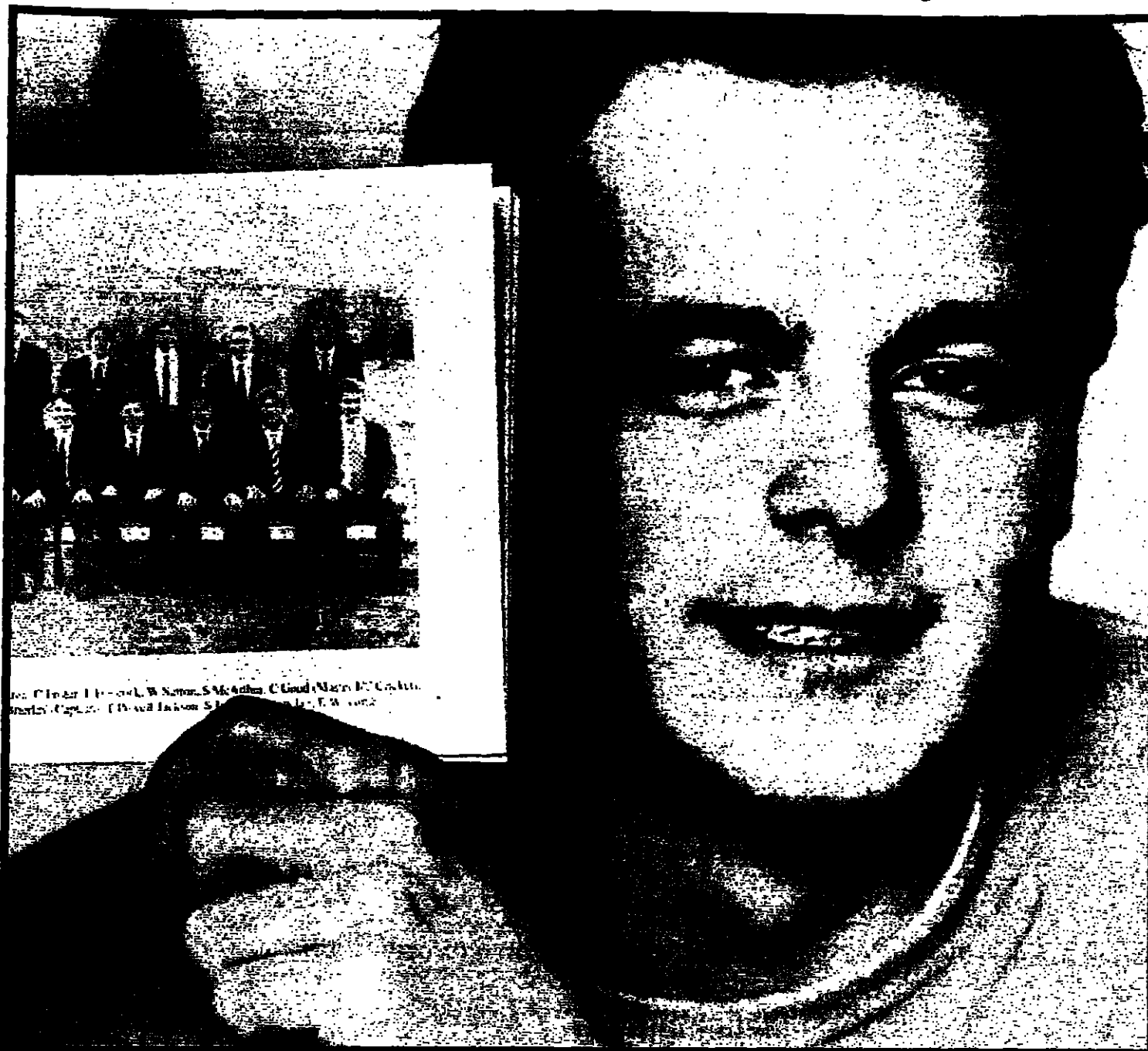
"But it was more than that. I started thinking about my future: university, a job, buying a car, getting married, a mortgage and then dying. I thought there had to be something more than this and got away to think things through."

"GETTING out of the house at Rugby was the hardest part, but I worked out how to bypass the security system and left during the night."

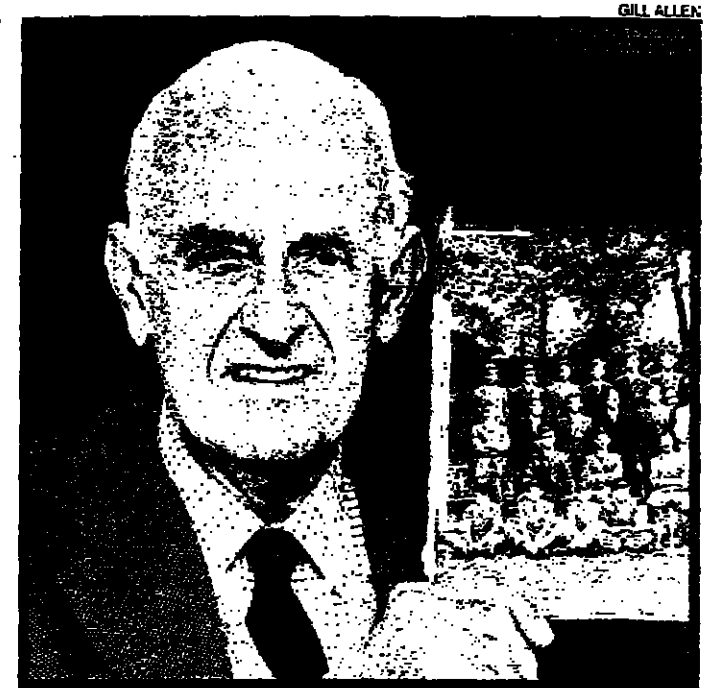
He flew from Manchester to Barbados, where he was met by a beach artist he had befriended while on holiday during the summer.

"The first day was the hardest. I started to wonder what I was doing. But I phoned my parents and they were fine about it."

"I know what I want to do in life. I want to help people, perhaps in the field of psychology. I'm trying to sort out how to achieve that."



Above, 17-year-old Tom Radmore, who is in his final year at Winchester College. Top right, Guy Radmore, his grandfather, who left in 1937, and below, his father, Michael, who left in 1968



**H**arry Flashman still casts a long shadow over the popular perception of Britain's public schools. For many, the villainous and bullying antihero of *Tom Brown's Schooldays* continues to typify the institutionalised sadism and absurdity of a privileged education.

However, much has changed in the past century or so: the image of archaic institutions riddled with homosexuality, cruelty, senseless rules and ludicrous traditions is at last being laid to rest. Currently 100,000 pupils are attending boarding schools, and the figure is rising all the time.

The boarding schools have been so dismayed by the endurance of what they see as an inaccurate and damaging view that they have clubbed together to form the Boarding Education Alliance. The BEA is made up of 170 member schools lining up behind a campaign designed to "dispel outdated images of boarding and show the relevance of boarding to family life in the 1990s". It provides information on all facets of the boarding experience and includes "ready-made case studies".

Guy Radmore's memories of his schooldays are as clear now as when he left Winchester College 60 years ago: "Cold showers and beatings ...

nothing wrong with that." His family are stalwarts of the system, with three generations having attended the school. The eldest male Radmore, now 77, left in 1937; his son Michael, 47, in 1968. Seventeen years old and in his final year is his son Tom.

"Very much the product of a bygone age," Guy Radmore, with his impeccable manners and upright carriage, says. "The way of life in our day didn't do us any harm. What I learnt at Winchester enabled me to take 30 men to war and bring them out at Dunkirk when I was only 19."

From what his grandson tells him, Mr Radmore thinks school life now is too free, and more comparable with university. "In my day it was a closed little society, and everyone was keen to conform. I only had two friends outside my house, let alone outside the school."

"Girls were strange animals. If the girls from St Swithun's came to our part of town, they were kept on the other side of the street."

He recalls rigid discipline, including confinement to school grounds for weeks, sometimes months, on end. The emphasis on religion was strong: chapel twice daily. "Sunday was the most appalling day, though — three services — and you had to wear a top hat and morning coat. We weren't allowed to throw a ball, swim or ride a bicycle, and for years afterwards I dreaded Sundays."

Canings were usually administered by prefects, imposed for misdemeanours as minor as forgetting to take your hat off while passing the war memorial. "Nobody minded getting beaten. It was quite an honour and known as a 'sporting arse'." However, there was no bullying and even less snobbery. "I never heard of anyone laughing at another boy because his parents weren't rich enough. We were all very happy there and had the most marvellous masters. They were all terrific characters. I believe our system produced splendid chaps. It taught you to take the knock and be part of society. These days boys tend to drift."

In 1963, when Michael Radmore arrived at Winchester, conditions were still as spartan: large, cold dormitories and lavatories without doors. Beating was less common, but fagging remained, with younger boys on call 14 hours a day. "Prefects would come into the hall and shout 'Sweat!'. The last boy to reach him would have to carry out the bidding."

However, by the late 1960s more liberal attitudes were filtering through. "We became outrageously scruffy, pushing the boundaries with illegal suede shoes, kipper ties and

American button-down shirts."

In deference to the times, the strict routine was becoming less rigid, with the boys allowed to move freely inside an eight-mile radius of the school. Intimate relations with the opposite sex were less of a taboo. For many boys the first social contact with a girl of their age was at the house dance. "Those were pretty tepid affairs with no booze and everyone rather shy," says Michael.

And homosexuality? "There were certainly a few guys who were said to be that way, and a couple were very effeminate. I never came across it myself."

Like his father, Michael went straight from Winchester into the Army and has no doubts about the benefits of a public-school education. "It encouraged self-reliance and individuality, to be considerate and aware of other people. It was not an unkind place. We were all happy."

In 1993 Michael's son Tom arrived at Winchester. I met him after work — a holiday job in the local post office — and found his account of Winchester to be in stark contrast to that of his father and grandfather. The medieval edifice may have altered little in Winchester's 600-year history but within its flint and stone walls lies a school apparently reformed and reinvented, modern and caring, worthy of Tony Blair's "new Britain". Out are cold dormitories, fagging and Victorian disciplines in are comfortable bedsits, the Internet, first names and socials with St Swithun's.

They tell you what to do with a condom and about the dangers of LSD and other drugs."

Tom's grandfather remembers his parents visiting the school only on a handful of occasions, and even then his mother was forbidden to enter his house. These days there are regular meetings.

"Homosexuality? You occasionally hear rumours, but nothing serious," says Tom.

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Everyone is on first-name terms. Each senior has two juniors under him whom he must look after. When classes are over, pupils change into jeans, sweatshirts and trainers for the multitude of extra-curricular activities. Each house has a computer room connected to the Internet, and some pupils have the system wired through to their own studies and laptops.

"There's no need to go and get my prep from the department noticeboard any more: I get sent it by e-mail," says Tom. "If I have questions I can message my tutor on e-mail."

If pupils are away from their terminals, the tutors can contact them on pagers. Every other boy has one. "If you're out of contact — say away playing in a match — and a friend or housemaster needs to contact you urgently, he can."

Today Winchester has the closest of relationships with St Swithun's. As well as co-hosting dinners and dances where those participating are entitled to three or four glasses

of wine, many plays and concerts are a joint effort. Interaction is encouraged, and Tom has a steady girlfriend there whom he often meets in town for a meal or the cinema.

Winchester College boys are prepared early for the pitfalls of modern living, he says. "The teachers take you through the perils of drugs, sex and rock 'n' roll in a series of classes in your second year."

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And drugs? "It is not widespread, but like anywhere else, it does happen. Guys do get busted occasionally and they are usually straight out, no questions asked. But the worst thing you can do for the reputation of your house is to have bullying. Inevitably you get some verbal, but you get that anywhere."

Tom's final preparation for life outside seems more than strange to his father and grandfather — authorised evening visits to the pub. Providing the pupil is 18 and has informed his housemaster, permission is readily granted. But what if you want to take a friend who is 17? "Then he says he's coming along for a meal, and there is a bit of nudge-nudge, wink-wink. Your housemaster knows he'll probably have a drink."

Fagging is out; cosy bedsits, the Net and first names are in

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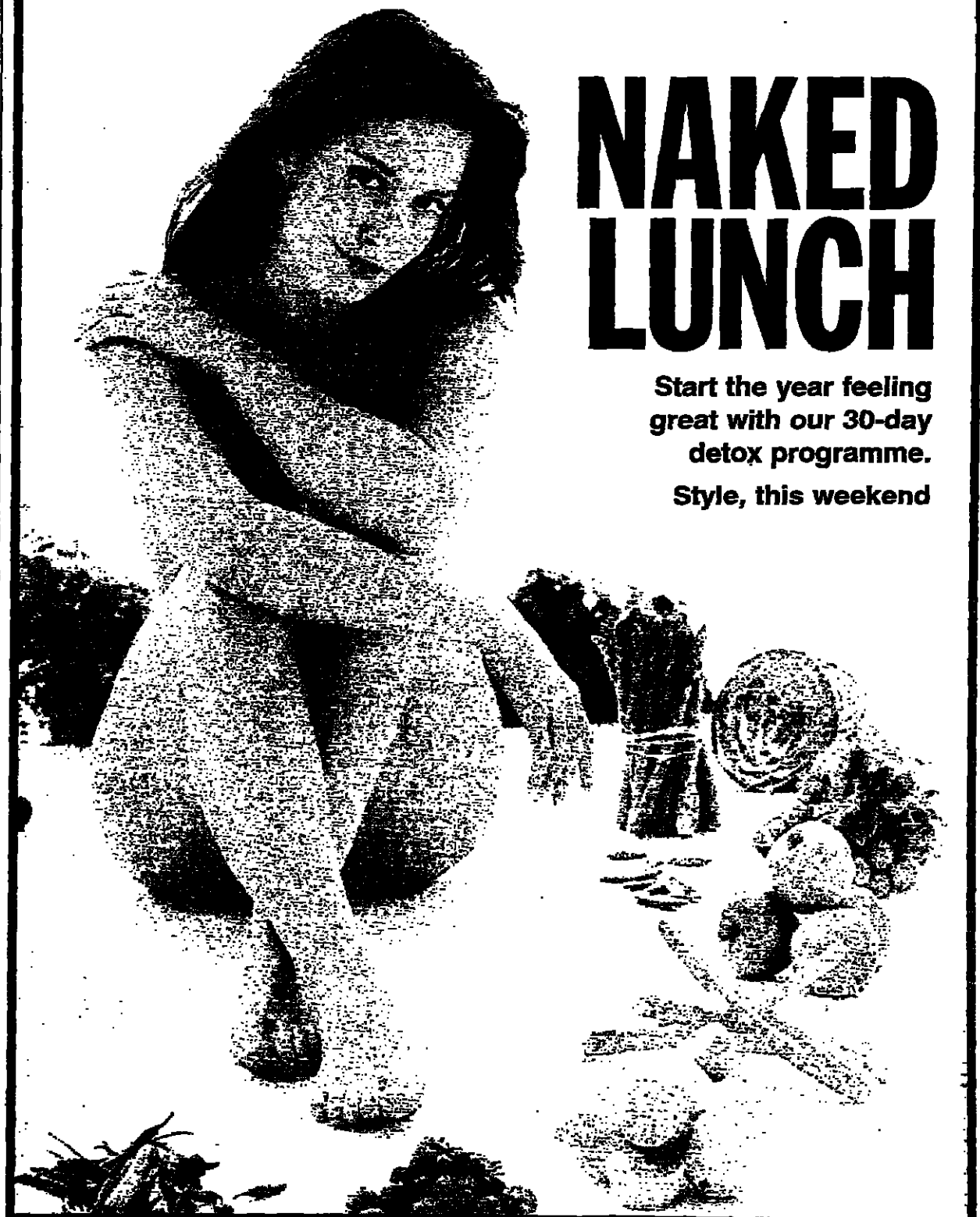
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## THE SUNDAY TIMES



# NAKED LUNCH

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THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS



Alan Coren



Place your hand upon this Jeffrey Archer and convert slowly after me

I had been curled up here for some time, in this corner of my terminally Yuled living-room, trembling fitfully, like an ineptly nesting dormouse, among the un-cleared mounds of wrapping paper, cracker shards, busted tree-balls, nutshells, needles, gnawed boxes, booties, torn crowns, stale pies, buckled squeakers and all the other post-festive detritus, and I had been racking the frobbing remnants of my brain, on the last day of 1997, in an effort to come up with something to offer my readers which might just put a spring in their step for the beginning of 1998, when the tree fell over. It fell over because my leg went suddenly to sleep - a boon which had managed to elude the rest of my body for most of the previous week - and, in straightening it to alleviate the numbness, my foot came up against the tree-light wire, and, even before the fairy had hit the floor, the idea for this column came to me.

I knew what I would offer my readers for 1998. I would offer them the chance to get out of Christmas for good. I would offer them a brief rundown, based on my wide knowledge of comparative religion, on a few other faiths to which they might sensibly convert, to avoid all this.

Judaism has considerable appeal. The soup is good, and you can keep your hat on indoors, thereby enjoying a substantial saving on fuel costs. Also, books are read back to front, which means that you do not have to plough through the whole of the new Jeffrey Archer to find out what happens. The main drawback to Judaism is that you will be expected to forgo lobster thermidor, sell at least three new jokes a week, and support Tottenham Hotspur.

Islam may suit you even better than Judaism, in that if you don't want to read the new Jeffrey Archer at all, you can not only burn it, you can apply to have him shot. Furthermore, you will be in a position to take advantage of whatever you think polygamy may have to offer, although I should not advise this for anyone who has difficulty remembering anniversaries. The main drawback to Islam is that you are required to take your shoes off when entering a mosque. If it is a big mosque, it may take you all day to find them again.

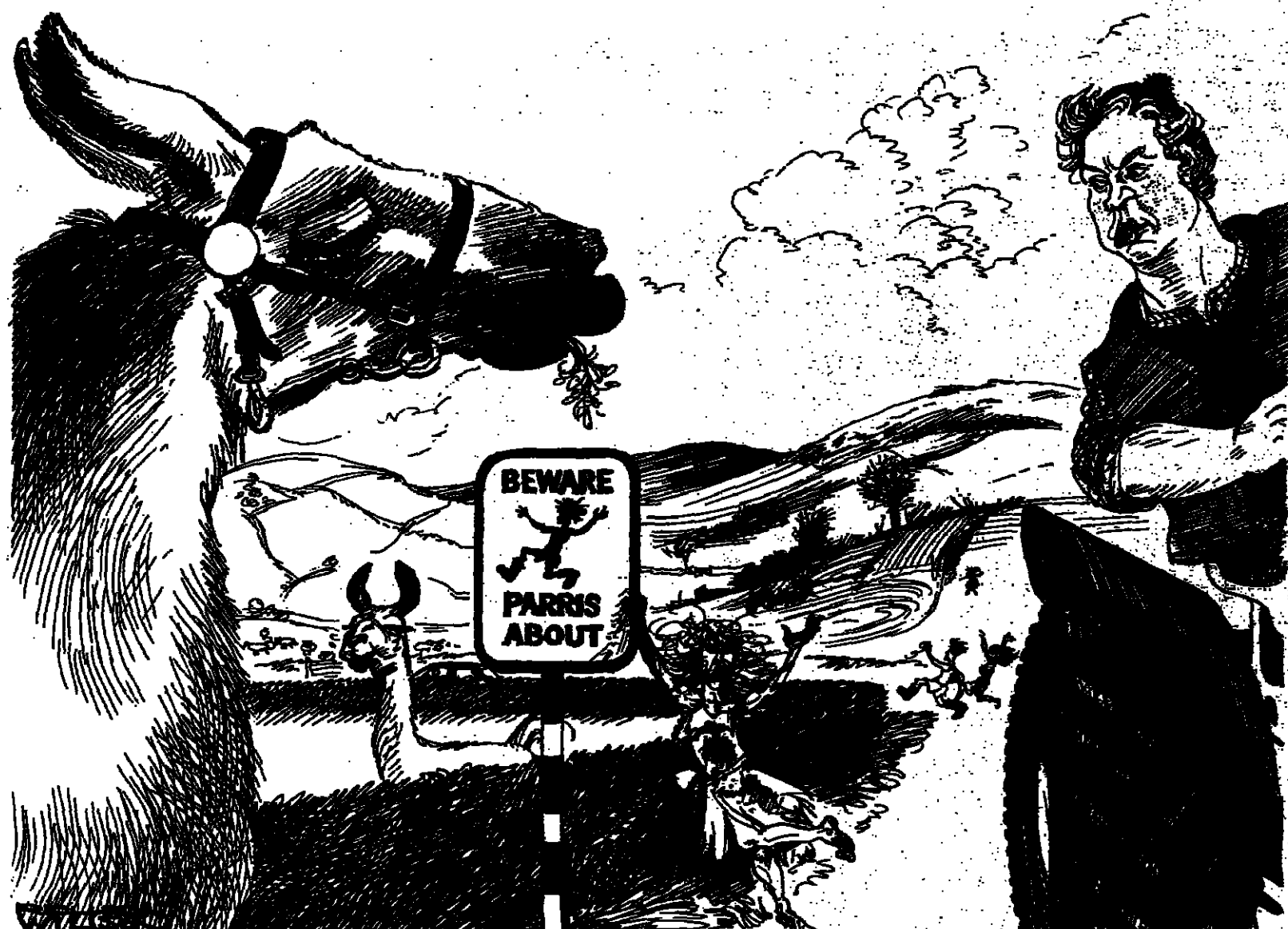
Buddhism is unquestionably the religion to go for if you are bald. Nobody will ever know. You can also spend the entire day walking up and down Oxford Street without having to buy anything. Moreover, the principle of reincarnation is very attractive. You could come back with a full head of hair, or, with even better luck, as the Sultan of Brunei or Bill Gates. But then again, you could come back as Jeffrey Archer.

Hinduism, likewise, has both major pros and cons. You do not have to find your own wife, which will save you a small fortune in flowers, perfume, chocolates and jewellery, but you have to stay open until midnight, all week, because you can never tell when a non-Hindu might want to come in and buy flowers, perfume, chocolates and jewellery. You may also have to stock the new Jeffrey Archer, if it looks like being a goer.

Shinto will save you a packet on furniture and crockery. You sit on a tiny mat and eat from a tiny bowl. Your wife sits behind a screen, with your other robe, and will run out with it, silently, if you spill anything from the tiny bowl. The main drawback with Shinto is that, if things don't work out, you will be expected to disembowel yourself. However, since you do not own a bookshelf, nobody will ever give you the new Jeffrey Archer.

So there you are. Bags of choice. And remember, should you prefer to remain Christian after all but want to take no further part in the festive hokum, that the Marmosets are always on the lookout for new recruits. They are a nice crowd, but there is one drawback: you will have to spend Christmas going from door to door in a smart blue suit with a permanent grin on your face, telling everyone you meet about this wonderful book of yours. You will thus run the constant risk of being mistaken for Jeffrey Archer.

Phillip Howard's column will appear tomorrow.



The great llama roundup

My two refugees from the Andes go sightseeing in the Peaks - and I earn an even greater reputation for eccentricity

Just after dawn a few Sundays ago I was upstairs sleeping soundly in Derbyshire. Through my dreams came a doorknock. I staggered to the window. At the door beneath was a stranger. "What is it?" I shouted.

"Your llamas are out. They're on the road."

He was driving away before I had time to ask which road. Dazed, I pulled some clothes on randomly. "The llamas are out," I called outside my friend's bedroom door.

"What?" she groaned.

"Escaped. Gone. On the road. Quick, dress, we must find them."

The llamas are recent arrivals. Some days before, Lesley and Imp had been introduced to the paddock whose walls and fences were supposed to be boundaries to their new life. But, as Anne Atkins has discovered, adolescent girls crave adventure. Their gate, which I had left shut but unsecured, was ajar. They had seemed so content in their pasture, so friendly, so unwaveringly interested in the next handful of delicious goat-mixture, that it had not occurred to them they might wish to roam.

Within minutes I was at the end of the drive, where the little metal road passes my gate. My friend (who hates to be named in newspapers) was crashing around in the barn fetching halter-ropes and goat-mixture. I stood impatient at the gate - the worst fears flashing through my imagination. Might they have munched a sprig of deadly yew tree as they passed? Which way had they gone, left or right? There are so many blind corners on the lanes, people drive so fast, and these llamas know nothing about traffic and are ignorant of the Highway Code... it was too dreadful to contemplate. The last thing a driver expects, flying round a bend at dawn on a December morning in Derbyshire is llamas on the road.

The five minutes before my friend arrived seemed an eternity. She took the car and drove off to the right. I turned left and ran down the hill, bellowing "Lesley! Imp!" Several straggling sheep looked up from their grazing. Their expressions declared: "Well, if you will keep llamas, for heaven's sake! Try sheep next time. We're less adventurous, cheaper and British. Those girls are probably looking for Chile." I ran about a mile, calling. By now I could see the whole hillside - no llamas - and my friend driving back towards me. She had gone two miles the other way. No llamas there, either. "Why don't we make a circuit," she said, "around to

Youghreave, then back in a loop. We might meet them coming the other way - towards Youghreave.

She and I drove slowly round the lanes, shouting "Lesley! Imp!" from the car windows. Our behaviour seemed to surprise those we encountered. The problem being that if one stopped to explain, this did not lessen the surprise. I was unshaven, distinctly désigné and had pulled on the nearest torn vest. I wore wellington boots. My friend, who has an Italian accent, looked equally distraught. Have you tried drawing up beside isolated pedestrians at 8 o'clock on an English Sunday morning, wind-

ing down your window and inquiring, with your hair standing on end, and in an Italian accent: "Did you see a couple of llamas on the road?" You would be amused by the responses.

"Did two llamas pass this way?" my friend asked one lady, walking her dog. "No," (pause) "I think I would have noticed."

"Have you seen our llamas?" I asked a farmer's son, who had pulled his tractor up next to us. "No," he replied; then, perhaps fearing this sounded curt, "how big are they?" I stuck an arm out to indicate height. "No," he said, "Definitely not."

I suspect he then panicked at the sight of the pair of us, wild-eyed and partially dressed. Terrified he might be about to give him our phone number, he called from his departing tractor: "I'll, er, drop you a line if I see them."

In Youghreave, there was not a soul about. We turned into the lane which leads back past my house and began the disconsolate journey home. Had my llamas been rustled? Is there much llama-tasting in Derbyshire?

Matthen Parris

Derbyshire constabulary is kind enough to keep an eye on my property, and occasionally pop in to see all is well. They chose this moment to make one of their calls. According to one of the frolickers - caught in mascara at midnight in the headlights of a patrol car, his lipstick smeared and frock muddy, waving a high-heeled shoe in one hand, his other shoe and foot stuck fast in the mud - the faces of the two constables suggested something close to panic. "They asked if everything was OK," he told me, "and we said 'just fine' and they drove off. Rather fast."

"Did you explain that I was in South America?"

"Yes, but they didn't seem to be taking much in."

Ever since a former Chief Inspector told me about (and named) one of my constituents found tied to a bed at coffee-break time in the morning, a male friend who was not her husband, dressed in a rubber Spiderman outfit, unconscious on the floor with a broken ankle, having leapt from the top of the wardrobe and missed the bed, I have cherished few illusions about confidentiality within the county constabulary. So I had no great hopes of the drag party story remaining between the four walls of the Bakewell police station, and no hope at all that anybody new remembers I was in South America at the time.

And now this. As I trotted along the lane, two llamas mimicking behind and an Italian lady in a dilapidated old VW Golf tooting her horn, it did strike me that an unfair picture of this columnist could be beginning to form in local minds.

Lesley, Imp, my friend and I, reached home. I breathed, the llamas as fresh as daisies. Imp minced straight into their home field; Lesley - before I could stop her - nibbled a quick spray of yew (no ill-effects) in passing. We closed the gate. Imp placed her nose under the bar, then lifted the gate up and forward, demonstrating how the break-out had been accomplished.

Three hours later I was at a pre-lunch drinks party near another village. "I hear your llamas were out," said our host. "What's this about your llamas escaping?" said someone who lives on the other side of the county. "I hear your llamas were out," said a Bakewell solicitor friend. He is married to a detective in the Derbyshire constabulary. So, reader, you might as well know too. My llamas were out.

Poison pen

QUITE unlike these joinings, James Lees-Milne's diaries were not always generous in their evaluation of others. So friends of the late National Trust grandee may be alarmed to learn that just before his death on Sunday, he lodged his final batch of diaries with his publisher. His scabrous observations, penned either side of the war, noted, for instance, that Colonel Pemberton was "a fiendish old imbecile", Cyril Connolly was "lumpish, bad-mannered and as bored with me as I was with him", while Evelyn Waugh was "the nastiest-tempered man in England". He was, to be blunt, a snob. Of class distinctions, he wrote: "I love them and hope they endure for ever."

The volumes started appearing in the 1970s, and the last instalment will cover the angry reaction to his scribbles. But I gather that this time, as a sop to the offended, he doctored the manuscript to remove a few of the more strident passages. "It may have had some doctored, I won't say castrated," says his old friend John Saumarez Smith, the respected bibliophile. "He became more cautious in later life, having experienced the reactions of people such as Lady Dashwood to his earlier diaries."

Friends at Brooks's where he was a member for 60 of his 89 years, will read the diaries with cautious interest - he often regaled club-regulars with anecdotes, including the time he saw Elgar pick up the phone to talk to his dogs.



Lees-Milne; Waugh

SIR Michael Gambon, freshly knighted, reportedly has robust views on the age of some of his audiences. Sir Richard Eyre tells a charming tale about what he calls the biggest failure of his time at the National Theatre - his rather grey clientele. Gambon, the star of Eyre's production of Skylight, apparently said he wanted to walk to the front of the stage and tell the audience that the play did not have sex any more. Eyre adds: "I would stand at the back... and



there wasn't a man in the audience with a full head of hair."

Ideal gnome

AN UNKIND joke, possibly being told by Gordon Brown at his new year celebrations (but told to me by a former Tory minister), Snow White, Tom Thumb and Quasimodo fall into conversation. "I suppose I am the most beautiful person in the world," says Snow White. "Yes, and I must be the smallest," adds Tom. "And I," concludes Quasimodo, "must be the ugliest." Snow White suggests that the trio trip down to Guinness Book of Records HQ for confirmation. After doing so, she emerges beaming. "It's official. I am the most beautiful girl in the world," Tom Thumb follows. "I am the smallest; it's confirmed." Quasimodo emerges looking sad and

cross: "Who is this Robin Cook bloke, anyway?" How cruel.

DRINKERS at the Pinner pub where Elton John began his plinking 30 years ago are indifferent to his elevation. One Eddie Edwards remembers playing darts while Elton tinkled the ivories: "We told him to shut up - only not so politely."

Sean whose?

THERE are shades of J.R. Hartley in the approach of Sean Hughes - a comedian, apparently - who

has just produced his first work of fiction. The Detainees is a seamy tale of two schoolfriends falling out in drug-ridden Dublin backstreets. But he seems a little sensitive about the reaction to his effort. A familiar-looking figure was seen popping into a bookshop in North London, asking if they had any Sean Hughes books. "Who?" asked the assistant. "Sean Hughes, the novelist," responded the earnest young man. "Nope." Within the hour, the shop received a call from the publishers offering to send round some copies.

AMBASSADORS were not like this in Lord Palmerston's day. Our man in Lisbon, Roger Westbrook, unveiled designs for the UK pavilion at the Expo-98 trade fair recently and gave this pledge: "We are going to slightly lift the hem of our dress, show our knees and perhaps a flash of thighs." Would the available People's Ambassador ever consider performing in pantomime?

Jones the spin

THE sultry presence of Catherine Zeta Jones has boosted the campaign to site the Welsh Assembly in Swansea. The Darling Duds of May flower has a challenging role - charming the mysterious Ron Davies into choosing her home



Swansea's finest Zeta Jones

towns ever eager suitors from Cardiff. Alan Williams, the Swansea West MP, is coaching her in the art of political persuasion: "She is a Swansea girl who has been supportive of her home city." She made her debut at the Swansea Guildhall, where she told local dignitaries: "It would be a wonderful boost for Swansea if the Assembly were to come here." Before she could expound on the technicalities of devolution, though, she was whisked away to the States for a well-deserved skiing holiday.

JASPER GERARD

Bonfire of the certainties

John Lloyd asks where the EU is taking us

Two swags are being unchained in our political cosmos and, together with new Labour, which is the instigator of these chains, must live through the consequences. These are likely to be dizzying but in the messages we have lobbed at our politicians, we ourselves have been proponents of the swags and we should at least recognise what we have done.

The first, and most unequivocal, is the death of the socialist project within the Labour Party. The claim of conscience of Ken Coates and Hugh Kerr, the Labour members of the European Parliament who told The Observer at the beginning of this week that they could no longer live easy within new Labour, was poignant in its recognition that nothing - nothing - of what they had come into politics to achieve was to be discarded in new Labour.

They had come into politics to achieve socialism. That has not been on offer for some little while now; but at least there was a fight left on how much water should be added to the milk. Now the milk has all been spilled.

The second and less explicit move has been the challenge to parliamentary supremacy. The Scottish Parliament-to-be is the challenger here. The powers it takes to itself as its practice unfolds will answer the question of whether it will permanently chafe over its subordinate status to Westminster and in the end vote against it, or work successfully as a genuinely autonomous and representative locus of power.

The first precipitates crisis. The second suggests a larger project of the devolution of power within England. The fixed relationship between the sun of the Crown-in-Parliament and the Earth of the electorate is now in deep flux.

The European Union could be a solvent for these clouded issues. As Britain today enters the first full day of its presidency of the EU, our country's role may be a critical one. Not in the vainglorious sense that new Labour has proclaimed; we cannot lead Europe, we have little credibility as a leader. But if our Government cannot lead Europe into a renaissance of British virtues of dynamism, flexibility and open-mindedness, it might lead Britain into a recognition that the European project is not a Kafkaesque bureaucracy, from which there is no escape.

Europe offers to staunch the pain of the death of socialism by letting business be the border-free, monetarily stable, single-currency regime it wishes, in exchange for a preservation of systems of social justice. Business - polls show - seems to like Union more and more. If business wants Union so much, argue the social and Christian democrats of Europe, it should be prepared to ensure that welfare gains are not threatened - globalisation permitting, of course. Europe also offers a route out of the struggle between the old capitals and their ambitious regions, by proposing a capture of some of the capitals' economic power by EU institutions and devolution of much of the micro-management of the economy and society to regional centres or lower. If this is indeed the flow, we have a chance of resolving the festering problem of our constitution in a wider arena.

But vast contradictions loom. Among which one in particular casts a long shadow. As the report of the Royal Institute of International Affairs Commission on Britain and Europe (published just before Christmas) puts it, the "imperative of ensuring EMU's success means that a variety of economic and political functions could be centralised fairly quickly."

Opposing this lie questions of legitimacy and diversity, increased by EU enlargement. In his recent collection of essays, The New Ruckoning, the political scientist David Marquand wrote that "member governments... would be blamed or praised in a monetary union unless it had an identifiable quality which could be blamed or praised instead... monetary union requires political union."

The essay was written 15 years ago. As Marquand remarks, life has changed in the intervening period.

Legitimacy is not just a British concern, though we have expressed it most forcefully. The tortured debates at the Amsterdam Heads of Government Conference showed that Germany and France both now balk at some ceding, at least, of national sovereignty. People have given some sort of assent to national parliaments, but as yet too little to a European one.

Britain has no better way out of this contradiction than anyone else. But it may be able to turn its innate scepticism of integration to some good use. In our quest to find a "third way" we are neither socialism nor the untrammelled market; in our groping for centres of authority other than Westminster, we may be able to provide a template for the emergence of political structures which can absorb the tensions of monetary union.

The real question, Marquand writes in another essay, "is how much diversity an emerging political union can stand without dissolving into its constituent parts." This Government has made it plain that it does not wish the EU to dissolve. It is thus stuck with seeing a political union emerge in balance a society one. The Marquand question will blast us into the next millennium.

The author is associate editor of the New Statesman.



Bonfire of the certainties  
John Lloyd



### EDGE OF TERROR

A time for brave leadership by Ulster's constitutional parties

This year was supposed to be the one in which Northern Ireland's peace train reached its destination. After the terrorist attack in north Belfast on New Year's Eve a settlement looks as distant as ever. The attack on the Clifton Tavern was another instalment of the Loyalist Volunteer Force's bloody revenge for the killing of their leader Billy Wright in the Maze prison at the weekend. Horrifying in itself, the atrocity casts a black shadow on this new year.

what the IRA is thinking. Equally, there will be those within loyalist ranks who have made the hideous calculation that war-war is preferable to a process of jaw-jaw which they see as leading to the irresistible detachment of Ulster from the rest of the United Kingdom. These irreconcilables have always tended to look on the talks through telescopic sights, but their analysis that the peace process is inimical to Unionist interests has spread beyond their ghettos.

### MEAN STREETS

A French disease curable only by radical surgery

France has started the new year with a bang, not of celebration but of street riots. From Saint-Denis outside Paris to Mulhouse in the east, France's 3.1 million unemployed — too many of whom have never had a job — have taken to the streets, occupying unemployment offices and firing stones and Molotov cocktails at firemen and security forces. What began a few weeks ago as unrelated incidents are now being co-ordinated by the Communist-led CGT union and other leftist groups, who plan further national protests next week.

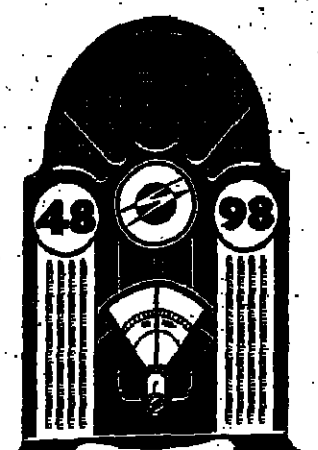
perous city which has developed a culture of youth violence; but this was the worst outbreak for several years and could, according to the police, have been controlled only by imposing a blanket curfew.

### KINSEY'S WAY

The prophet without honour of postwar sexual liberation

Among the disguises the social critic may adopt, science is one of the most effective. Shielded by the carapace of hard data, all manner of daring, revolutionary things may be said. Nobody, perhaps, has so shamelessly exploited the opportunities as did Professor Alfred Kinsey, whose *Sexual Behaviour in the Human Male* was published 50 years ago. His statistics helped to usher in an age of sexual liberation which seems as distant in this post-Aids world as it must have looked from a Forties laboratory.

derived from the experiences of a pedagogue who had managed to avoid detection and imprisonment. Kinsey's devoted wife was encouraged to have an affair with a young staff member. All this might not have mattered so much had his science been better. But his claim truly to have uncovered the sexual habits of 20th-century Americans was vitiated by his disregard for proper sampling methods. He was simply too interested in bizarre or extreme sexual behaviour to resist the temptation to seek out its practitioners.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9KN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### Devolution 'bad for British nation'

From Mr Alistair B. Cooke  
Sir, Vernon Bogdanor ("The more we are together", December 22) makes devolution seem wholly unattractive, but nevertheless commends it on the ground that "Britain is by far the most centralised state in Western Europe" (more centralised than France?).

### Measures to tax cars off the road

From Mr David Sawers  
Sir, I cannot agree with the headline, "Charges fail to price drivers off the roads", to your report of December 29 on the trial traffic scheme in Leicester. A reduction of "only" 15 per cent in commuter journeys for a £3 charge is not unexpected and would produce a noticeable reduction in congestion.

### Inconsistencies in charity taxation

From the Director of Finance for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children  
Sir, We welcome the Government's forthcoming review of charity taxation and hope that it will do something to redress the injustice and incoherence in the present system (Letters, December 19).

### 1997 workload of the Royal Family

From Mr Tim O'Donovan  
Sir, I have conducted a survey of the official engagements carried out by the Royal Family during 1997, as reported in the Court Circular.

### Takes the cake

From Mr Nick Easley  
Sir, According to the brochure I saw recently at my local branch, one of the major supermarkets seems to be showing a remarkable disregard of the current trend for greater clarity about what we are eating.

### 'Selected' veg

From Mrs John Prebble  
Sir, Could the catering industry, I wonder, be prevailed upon to adopt as a new year resolution the abolition of the "chef's selection of fresh vegetables" and allow us to choose our own, giving us a reasonably sized portion of a single item, plus potatoes cooked to our taste?

### Prostate cancer

From Dr Richard Freeman  
Sir, I am pleased and encouraged that you have chosen to focus attention on the work of the Institute of Cancer Research (Appeal, December 24; letter, December 10), and its timely focus on prostate cancer.

### Naming names

From Mrs Sue Keane  
Sir, Today, the country is divided into two categories — the media, who know the name of the Cabinet minister (Letters, December 29, January 1), and the rest of us, who don't and don't want to. Perhaps you would all be kind enough to leave us in peace, and allow the law to run its course.

### Legislation for life

From the Reverend Brian T. Sturtridge  
Sir, If life is "a sexually transmitted terminal disease" (letter, December 29; see also letter, December 30) then death is a divinely given eternal healing.

### Extra spice

From Mr Raymond Wergan  
Sir, In order to differentiate between grandparents, our latest granddaughter has started calling my wife "Granny Spice".

### Plastic padding

From Mr Philip Smith  
Sir, Mr Philip Smith, commenting on the 35 plastic cards in his wallet (letter, December 31), asks where will it all end? If his spending habits are as exuberant as my own I suspect it will end in tears.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5045. E-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk



SOCIAL NEWS

The Queen will open the five millionth home to be built under the National House Building Council scheme on Thursday, February 19.

Birthdays today

Mr David Bailey, photographer, 65; Mr N.H. Baring, chairman, Commercial Union Assurance, 64; Sir Richard Bayliss, former physician to the Queen, 81; Mr Leopold Brook, former chairman, Simon Engineering, 86; Mr Christopher Campbell, chairman, British Shipbuilders, 62; the Duke of Devonshire, KG, 78; Professor Sir Kingsley Dunham, FRS, geologist, 88; Mr Walter Harrison, former MP, 77; Miss Hilary Helbron, QC, 49; Sir Michael Hirst, former MP, 52; Mr Doug Mackay, trade unionist, 59; Sir Bruce Pattullo, Governor, Bank of Scotland, 60; Sir Charles Reece, former group research and technology director, ICI, 71; Mr Edmund de Rothschild, former chairman, N.M. Rothschild and Sons, 82; the Earl of St Germans, 57; Air Marshal Sir Ernest Sides, 85; Sir Keith Thomas, FBA, former President, British Academy, 65; Sir Michael Tippett, OM, CH, composer, 93; Dame Rachel Waterhouse, former chairman, Consumers' Association, 75; Sir Andrew Wood, diplomat, 58; the Right Rev Kenneth Woolcombe, former Bishop of Oxford, 74.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Thomas Yalden, poet, Oxford, 1669; James Wolfe, general and conqueror of Quebec, Westchester, Kent, 1727; Gilbert Murray, scholar, Sydney, New South Wales, 1866; Count Folke Bernadotte, UN mediator, Stockholm, 1895; Isaac Asimov, Russian-born American science fiction writer, Petrovichi in the Smolensk district of Russia, 1920. DEATHS: Ovid, poet, Tomi, on the Black Sea, 17AD; Johann Kaspar Lavater, physiognomist and poet, Zurich, 1801; Fabian Bellingshausen, Polar explorer, Russia, 1852; Alexander William Kinglake, historian of the Crimean War, London, 1891; Sir George Biddell Airy, Astronomer Royal 1836-61, Alnwick, Northumberland, 1892; Friedrich Wilhelm IV, King of Prussia, 1861; Leon Philippe Teisserenc de Bort, meteorologist, Carnes, 1913; Sir Edward Tyler, anthropologist, Wellington, Somerset, 1917; Eleanor Rathbone, social reformer, London, 1946; Edna May, actress, 1948. Académie Française founded by Cardinal Richelieu, 1635. Sir Joshua Reynolds became the first President of the Royal Academy, which opened this day, 1769. The Soviet lunar probe Luna 1, the first unmanned space rocket to pass close to the Moon, 1959. Sixty-six people were killed when a barrier collapsed at Ibrox Park football ground, Glasgow, 1971.

School appointment

Bruern Abbey is pleased to announce the appointment of Robert Deighton, formerly Housemaster at Cotshall, as Headmaster from January 4, 1998.

University news is on the facing page

Latest wills

Sir Guy Hope Holland, farmer and art dealer, of Eastleach, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, left estate valued at £23,322 net.

Margaret Lady Turner, of London N6, left estate valued at £685,218 net.

Sir David Bruce Fibiado, Comptroller and Auditor General 1971-76, of London SW3, left estate valued at £735,218 net.

Lady Cameron, of Thirsk, North Yorkshire, left estate valued at £674,652 net.

William Vincent, of Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, left estate valued at £1,801,501 net.

Lalage Ridsdale Rayner, of Little Aston, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, left estate valued at £1,875,880 net.

He left £1,000 to the RSPCA and the Cats Protection League.

David John Napier Edward Yorke, of Steyning, West Sussex, left estate valued at £4,749,259 net.

Margery Pugh, of Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex, left estate valued at £2,710,345 net.

She left shares in her residuary estate to: RNLI, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, Royal National Institute for Deaf People, Ifield Park Housing Society, Barnardo's, Leonard Cheshire Foundation, NSPCC, Salvation Army, RSPCA, Save the Children Fund, SCOPE and The Friends Trust.

William Henry Bowman, of Chichester, West Sussex, left estate valued at £1,012,044 net.

Mary Farlow Little, of Bathampton, Bath, left estate valued at £1,540,427 net.

She left £5,000 each to St Michael and All Angels Church, Bathampton, and the RNLI.

Patricia Burns, of Midhurst, West Sussex, left estate valued at £1,015,382 net.

Serena Mary Sheffield, of All Cannings, Devizes, Wiltshire, left estate valued at £2,864,211 net.

Evelyn Lorraine Tyack, of Tetbury, Gloucestershire, left estate valued at £1,949,793 net.

She left £500 to the Parochial Church Council of Eymay Church.

Margaret Elisabeth Lowe, of Torquay, Devon, left estate valued at £1,155,469 net.

Henry Mathison Pelling, a Fellow of St John's College, Cambridge, left estate valued at £1,857,975 net.

He left one half of his estate and half of his residuary estate to Save the Children Fund.

Gertrude Louie Plumby, of North Walsham, Norfolk, left estate valued at £2,731,581 net.

Diane Kathleen Gabriel, of London N12, left estate valued at £992,980 net.

Phyllis Rose Content, of London SW17, left estate valued at £2,018,148 net.

She left £500 to the Association of Jewish Friendship Clubs.

Aileen Hope Johnston Tatton Brown, of London W11, left estate valued at £1,357,646 net.

William John Findlay, of London N21, left estate valued at £1,325,653 net.

He left shares in his estate to the Royal Caledonian School, RNIB, Help the Aged and Barnardo's.

Joseph Spelman, of London W2, left estate valued at £1,447,641 net.

He left £2,000 to any synagogue of which he was a member.

John Howarth Richardson, of Worsley, Manchester, left estate valued at £2,129,901 net.

Richard Hunt Williamson, of West Drayton, Bedford, Northamptonshire, left estate valued at £1,383,823 net.



Broughty Ferry station, near Dundee, opened in 1838, a year after the London to Birmingham railway. The footbridge was added in 1886

End signalled for historic station

By MARCUS BINNEY

The oldest railway station in Scotland is under threat of demolition. Railtrack is seeking permission to knock down Broughty Ferry station, east of Dundee, which opened in 1838, a year after the epoch-making arrival of the London to Birmingham railway at Euston.

The station is listed Category A, Scotland's equivalent of Grade I in England. Railtrack says that it is in an appalling condition, has no use and would cost £399,000 to repair. "There was initial interest when we advertised it, but as soon as people saw how much work was needed, they melted away," said a spokesman.

In the 19th century, Broughty Ferry was a fashionable seaside resort where the owners of Dundee's flourishing jute mills built handsome villas to escape the foul air of the city. "Broughty Ferry was the richest mile in the Empire and even the pavements were of mahogany," the Railtrack spokesman said. In the First World War, the station echoed to the hobbled boots of thousands of troops embarking for Flanders and Gallipoli.

The station was built for the Dundee and Arbroath railway, which opened on October 6, 1838. When the station was listed, the Government heritage body Historic Scotland said that its gables and canopies had hardly changed since it was first illustrated in the 1840s. The covered footbridge was added in 1886 and



The station served a fashionable seaside resort, "the richest mile in the Empire"

the wooden signalbox soon after. Gordon Biddle, editor of the New Oxford Companion to British Railway History, said: "This is a very unusual example of a signalbox integrated with the footbridge. The whole group of buildings on both sides of the track deserves to be kept. Very few station buildings of such early date survive anywhere in Britain."

But Trevor Scott, a Railtrack architect, said: "Visually, the building is of no architectural merit. We can provide a much better passenger facility by replacing it. We are spending huge sums of money on listed station buildings all over Scotland, including £2 million on Dundee, another £2 million on Aberdeen further up the line, as well as £35 million on Glasgow Central. The station is in terrible condition. It wouldn't go into it."

The Railtrack spokesman added: "To be brutally honest, when we inherited these buildings in 1994 they were a prime example of British Rail's inability to invest. They had been allowed to go to rot." The station building has not been used operationally since 1986 and the last tenant, the Angus Railway Preservation Society, was asked to leave three years ago for repairs to be carried out. The society is keen to return but can pay only a peppercorn rent.

The Railway Heritage Trust has offered a grant towards restoration if a medium to long-term tenant can be found. David Hewick of Broughty Ferry Community Council said: "The railway was the making of the town. The station is one of our principal historic landmarks. Over 200 people have objected to the local council about the demolition. It is no good Railtrack complaining of perished gutters and slipped slates. These are things any normal householder would fix in a jiffy."

Forthcoming marriages

Sir Ralph Carr-Ellison and Mrs S. Dyer

The forthcoming marriage is announced and will take place shortly between Ralph Harry, husband of the late Mary Clare McCormough Carr-Ellison, nee Kavanagh, and Louise Gay Dyer, nee Welsh, widow of Simon Dyer.

Mr T.E. Fielden and Miss I.E.C. Duff

The engagement is announced between Thomas, son of Mr and Mrs J. Fielden, of Odham, Hampshire, and Janet, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C.E.A. Duff, of Buxton, North Yorkshire.

Mr V.A. Hazardras and Miss A.M. Davies

The engagement is announced between Vazirias, son of Mr and Mrs Vazirias, of Athens, Greece, and Mrs Lynne Hazardras, of Wenthurst, Surrey, and Anne, eldest daughter of Mr John Davies, of Denbighshire, North Wales, and Mrs Mary Davies, of St. John's Wood, London.

Mr S.A. Pettifer and Miss S.K.A. Lewis

The engagement is announced between Scott, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Pettifer, of Enfield, Middlesex, and Sophie, daughter of Dr and Mrs Brian Lewis, of Hythe, Kent.

Mr A.D. Yannaghas and Miss O.D.J. Ravenshear

The engagement is announced between Anthony, youngest son of Mr Michael Yannaghas, of Mordake, London, and Mrs Caroline Yannaghas, of Temple, Middlesex, and Dominica, youngest daughter of the late Mr Peter Ravenshear and of Mrs Ravenshear, of Hadleigh, Suffolk.

Marriage

Mr C.C. Gill and Miss G.R. Dalton

The marriage took place in Chelsea, on Christmas Eve, of Cem Gill, of Istanbul, and Claire Dalton, of Edgbaston, Birmingham.

A reception was held at Sarastro's, Drury Lane.

Skeleton reveals how Neanderthal man died

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE fate of Neanderthal Man is still a matter of debate among prehistorians, but the death of one Neanderthal male can now be explained: he died of lung cancer. Pathological changes in his leg bones, still visible after 40,000 years, are known to be consequences of the disease.

"This is the only known case of systemic effects of an infection or carcinoma among the Neanderthals," says Karen Fennell and Erik Trinkaus, after examining the skeleton. It was found at the site of La Ferrassie in the Dordogne in 1909, buried head to head with a Neanderthal woman.

The man's remains are "one of the most complete partial Neanderthal skeletons preserved, even though badly crushed", they say. Almost all parts, except for the knee joints and parts of the

pelvis, were recovered, including all the teeth. Analysis showed that the man was between 40 and 55, similar to other "elderly" Neanderthals.

The telltale lesions occur on the lower ends of the leg bones in the thighs and shins. New bone had formed on the outer surfaces, not as the result of damage to the knee or ankle joints but because of an inflammatory reaction to systemic infection or carcinoma.

Inflammation of the periosteum, the surface of the bone, can result from either infection in the bone itself, or a more general systemic condition. The most likely cause in this case was hypertrophic pulmonary osteoarthropathy (HPO), the primary cause of which is known to be thoracic infection or cancer, most often centred in the lungs.

There are many forms of

periostitis, with causes ranging from fractures through malnutrition to venereal diseases and tumours, but these tend to focus in different parts of the skeleton. The particular afflictions of La Ferrassie Neanderthal are specifically associated with lung cancer.

In advanced cases, the bones of the hands and feet are also affected, including clubbing of the fingers and toes, but La Ferrassie man died before the disease progressed that far. Such skeletal changes are reversible; the symptoms of HPO vanish rapidly, with pain and swelling decreasing within a day or two, and most arthritic lesions diminishing in a few months.

Source: Journal of Archaeological Science 24: 985-995

Church news

The Rev Ulla Minberg, Area Director of Ordinand, and Dean of Women's Ministry (London); to be also Priest-in-charge, Kennington Holy Trinity w All Saints (same diocese).

The Rev Janice Murray, Curate, Harry St Elizabeth (Carlisle); to be Priest-in-Charge, same benefice.

Canon Dr Martin Percy, Director of Lincoln Theological Institute (Sheffield); to be also NSM Assistant Curate, Millhouses Holy Trinity (same diocese).

The Rev Christopher Poulard, Rector, The Ravensingham Group (Norwich); to be also Rural Dean of Loddon (same diocese).

The Rev Michael Proctor, Assistant Curate, Leatherhead All Saints (Guildford); to be Priest-in-Charge, Henlow and Langford St Andrew (St Albans).

The Rev Richard Rendall, Assistant Curate, Heston St Peter (Chester); to be Rector, High Ongar w Norton Mandeville (Chelmsford).

The Rev David Saville, Bishop's Adviser for Evangelism, and Coordinator of the London Bridges Project (London); to be also Prebendary, St Paul's Cathedral.

Church (St Albans); to be also Rural Dean of Rickmansworth (same diocese).

The Rev Martin Lane, Assistant Curate, Liss (Portsmouth); to be Assistant Curate, Leigh Park St Francis and Warren Park St Clare; with responsibility for education and training (same diocese).

The Rev Anthony Lynett, Priest-in-Charge, Gloucester St Mark, and part-time Chaplain, HMP Gloucester (Gloucester); to be also Priest-in-Charge, Gloucester St Mary de Crypt w St John the Baptist, and Christ Church, St Mary de Lode and St Nicholas (same diocese).

The Rev Paul Maybury, formerly Curate, Sutton St George and St Barnabas Mission Church (Chester); to be Priest-in-Charge, Zennor, and Towednack (Truro).

The Rev Gerard Moate, Vicar, Dedham St Mary the Virgin (Chelmsford); to be also Rural Dean of Dedham and Tey (same diocese).

The Rev John Kingsley-Smith, Vicar, Chorleywood Christ

BMDs: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982 FAX: 0171 481 9313

DEATHS: POLLOCK - Tony (Jim) died suddenly at home on December 29th, 1997. Beloved husband of Joan and father of Joanna and Jonathan and father-in-law of Helen and Jill. Services at Remembrance Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, Surrey, on Friday, 30 January at 11.30. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to the British Heart Foundation and Charities Together.

DEATHS: BYERS - Rosemary Frances MBE. On December 18th 1997, aged 82 years, at St Raphael's Nursing Home, Bournemouth. Beloved wife of Robert and Catherine and their families. Services at St Raphael's Chapel, Bournemouth, Dorset, on Thursday January 29th 1998 at 2.00pm. Friends and relatives invited to attend. The Alchemists Disease Society c/o R. and Brooks & Son, 25, Wivelsfield Road, Haywards, Surrey, Surrey, Tel: 01483 21229.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE: LEAMSH - L. Gerald 2nd January 1998. Beloved husband of my beloved wife Joan. He died on the 23rd January.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: MULLIN - Gertrude (Gert) aged 83 died suddenly in hospital on 23rd December 1997. Her husband died in 1988. She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Joan, and her son, Mr. John. Services at St. Andrew's Church, Bournemouth, on Thursday, 29th January 1998 at 11.00am.

SERVICES: PAUL - Pamela Mary on 26th December 1997 aged 84, widow of Nigel Paul. Much loved mother of Lisa and grandmother of Jenny and Angus. Cremation on 5th January 1998 at 11.00am at Remembrance Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, Surrey. Family flowers only, but donations to The Paul Paul Trust, 100 Church Road, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 8BA.

BIRTHDAYS: MRS. WENDY ANN MURPHY. Born 24th January 1924. Services at St. Andrew's Church, Bournemouth, on Thursday, 29th January 1998 at 11.00am.

FOR SALE: A BIRTHDAY Champagne Casket. Price £99.99. Tel: 0171 732 2222.

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY: CONQUESTORS on flights to and from Europe, USA and Caribbean. Tel: 0171 732 2222.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL: PORTUGAL & CANARIES. All areas. Visa help. Tel: 0171 732 2222.

UK HOLIDAYS: BERKSHIRE. Services from 0171 732 2222.

FLATSHARE: FLATMATE. London. Tel: 0171 732 2222.

TICKETS FOR SALE: CHEAPSEATS. Tel: 0171 732 2222.

FARESAVERS: MALAGA 59 GRECE 67. Tel: 01476 592095.

DELTA WORLDWIDE: PRIME 497. Tel: 0161 272 8438.

AIRLINK: Worldwide. Tel: 0171 713 7770.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: CHILDREN ON DIALYSIS. need our love and practical support, not just today but everyday. Tel: 0171 481 9313.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES. Tel: 0171 481 9313.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES. Tel: 0171 481 9313.

LEGAL NOTICES: CHEWELL PRODUCTS LIMITED. Tel: 0171 481 9313.

LEGAL NOTICES: THE COUNTY OF WESTMIDLANDS. Tel: 0171 481 9313.

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OBITUARIES

NANCY SILVER

Nancy Silver, Headmistress of Streatham Hill and Clapham High School, 1973-78, and of Putney High School, 1979-86, died on December 13 aged 73. She was born on January 2, 1924.

I says everything about Nancy Silver, that, as soon as she retired from being headmistress of Putney High School in 1986, she went straight back to being a teacher of the subject she loved, classics, for the next ten years, part-time or full-time, wherever in London any school needed her.

Such idealism and indifference to rank or status were in the blood. Her formidable mother, Mrs Dora Pym (even her daughter called her Mrs Pym) was a woman of powerful, radical intellect. In the Bristol University Department of Education, Mrs Pym had revolutionised ways of thinking about teaching Latin and Greek. *Alive On Men's Lips* (1952), a groundbreaking anthology covering 2,000 years of Latin literature in a single volume, was a typically inventive product of mother-and-daughter collaboration.

Nancy Silver never lost her mother's radicalism. She was an early member of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, went on several Aldermaston marches and was downcast when the first cousin she so admired, Francis Pym, failed to scrap nuclear weapons when he was Defence Secretary.

As a headmistress and teacher, she believed passionately that children should learn to take decisions for themselves and she took an intense personal interest in the development of every child under her care. She was, above all, a woman of courage and principle. She never hesitated to speak her mind or to encourage others, even to the youngest schoolchild, to do the same.

This could cost her dear. Exuding effortless authority in public, she freely admitted to being a bundle of nerves underneath (it was a standing joke among her friends that



she relaxed on duty only once she had managed to spill her drink). The reason was that she knew that her sometimes unconventional way of doing things was not everyone's way. She could lay down the law with chilling authority when required, but could also pass things off with a liberal shrug of the shoulders. Not everyone always agreed with her judgments.

But she was entirely lacking in self-importance. She was not one for power-dressing, and legend has it that a schoolchild once fell asleep trying to count the number of hairs on a much-loved sweater of hers. Pomposity, pretentiousness

and grandiose occasions with the great and good served only to exasperate her or feed her tremendous sense of humour. She was, however, in deadly earnest about the moral, spiritual and intellectual welfare of every individual entrusted to her, and brooked no compromise there.

Nancy Silver was the eldest of the four children of Canon T. W. Pym, a residential canon of Southwark and Bristol Cathedrals and sometime chaplain of Balliol College, Oxford, and his wife Dora. Canon Pym died in 1945, but Nancy had assumed family burdens from an early age, finding welcome relief in the Marlborough School harvest

ing camps she worked at during the summers of the 1940s.

After Clifton High School she experienced the wartime disruption of Lady Margaret Hall at Oxford, sitting classical Mods in 1944, filling in the next year with a diploma in education at Birmingham University, and taking Greats in 1947. She was a keen sportswoman, captained the Oxford University women's cricket XI and developed a passion for Australian cricket, missing no games during their postwar 1948 English tour ("Bradman", she would exclaim, her eyes misting over). She taught classics at Haber-

erdashers' Aske's for three years, and in 1950 married Dr Christopher Silver, whom she had met through her medical brother. After they had raised their young family, she took up a post at Henrietta Barnett School, Hampstead Garden Suburb, in 1963; she later became the school's head of classics and deputy head.

In 1973, the Girls' Public Day School Trust appointed her headmistress of Streatham Hill and Clapham High School. This was a difficult period when the ending of the direct grant scheme threatened the very existence of the school. She inaugurated the bursaries' appeal without professional help, raised standards across the school, and saw the tide turn. In January 1979 she became headmistress of another of the trust's schools, Putney High School, where the participation of all — staff, pupils, and parents — in developing the school and her own enthusiastic approach to fundraising were the keys to her success.

Nancy Silver was not a woman to do things by halves. Even with a headmistress's workload, she threw herself into inspirational teaching of classics (she once taught a class on the stairs when no room was available), was president of the London Association of Classical Teachers, and taught regularly at, and one year directed, the Joint Association of Classical Teachers' Greek Summer School, which she regarded with the same fondness as those wartime harvest camps.

As a child she wrote plays which were constructed so that she could act the hero, villain and chief detective, and in later life she was always designing and making costumes for performances in school and out, amateur and professional, and took (and gave) immense pleasure in improving outfits for the end-of-course tragedies and comedies at the Greek Summer School ("Have you started the frogs yet? No, I'm still finishing the donkey").

This great-hearted, indomitable Nancy finally succumbed to cancer. She is survived by her husband and by four children.

MAJOR-GENERAL J. A. McILVENNA

Major-General J. A. McIlvenna, CB, Director of the Army Legal Corps, 1978-80, died on December 13 aged 78. He was born on December 10, 1919.



FIVE years after being demobilised at the end of the Second World War, during which he had fought his way across North-West Europe with the British infantry, Tony McIlvenna was back in uniform — this time as an army lawyer. He had had some experience of the work when, at the end of the fighting in Germany, his law degree had earned him a brief assignment on military legal affairs in the Rhineland.

Recommissioned in the Army Legal Services in 1950, he spent the next thirty years touring the world, advising and appearing in courts martial in Hong Kong, Aden, Egypt, Germany, Bahrain and Libya — from where his family had to be evacuated for safety reasons for fear of Arab reprisals after Suez.

John Antony McIlvenna was born in Darlington, the son of a civil engineer who was to become regional director of engineering for the London and North Eastern Railway (LNER). The McIlvennas had come originally from Ireland, moving from Ulster to the British mainland in the last century.

Tony McIlvenna's family moved to Newcastle upon Tyne, where he went to the Royal Grammar School, then to Hull — where he attended Hymers College — before returning finally to Darlington.

On leaving school McIlvenna became articled to a solicitor who was also the town clerk in Stockton-on-Tees. At the same time he read part-time for a law degree at King's College, Newcastle — then part of the University of Durham.

The War Office allowed him to take his degree in June 1940, before calling him up for war service, at first in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He was commissioned

after a few months, however, and switched to the Durham Light Infantry for which a number of his forebears had once served. He was in Iceland for a time before crossing the Channel after D-Day, as adjutant of the DLi's 10th battalion. The battalion suffered so many casualties, however, that it was disbanded and McIlvenna was reposted as a company commander to the South Wales Borderers. He was slightly wounded in one arm while clearing out a nest of Germans during the fighting in Holland, but went on to be mentioned in dispatches in the final few months of the war.

On his return to this country, McIlvenna attended a "crammer" before taking his law finals and being admitted as a solicitor in 1947. He then worked for a while in private practice in Wisbech.

Newly married, however, he felt the need to expand his income. He therefore returned to Germany to work as a civilian lawyer for the Control

Commission in the British Zone, before joining the Army Legal Services as a captain in 1950. McIlvenna rose steadily in rank until, in 1978, he was promoted major-general and made Director of the newly-formed Army Legal Corps — the reconstituted Army Legal Services. He retired in 1980.

McIlvenna was a conscientious, uncomplicated army lawyer who always took an optimistic view of life. In this respect he was sustained by his Christian faith. A devout Roman Catholic, he was chairman and director of the United Services Catholic Association from 1979 until 1981, when he became a vice-president. He was also a founder member of the Latin Mass Society, which regularly celebrates Mass in its traditional form. He relaxed by swimming, listening to music and above all by playing bridge.

Tony McIlvenna is survived by his German-born wife Hilde, a doctor specialising in psychiatry whom he met in Bonn at the end of the war, and by a son and a daughter.

FLOYD CRAMER

Floyd Cramer, country musician, died of cancer on December 31 aged 64. He was born on October 27, 1933.

FLOYD CRAMER was one of the most prolific and influential musicians in American country music. His distinctive "slipnote" piano playing style, artfully blending one note into the next, was a vital element in what became known as the "Nashville Sound", with which country performers reached a vast new non-specialist audience from the late 1950s onwards.

He recorded some 50 albums on his own account, many of them featuring songs he had written himself. But it was perhaps as a backing musician for more high-profile performers that he made his greatest impact. He was much in demand as a sideman throughout his career, moving effortlessly between country and pop in support of such stars as Elvis Presley (Cramer played piano on *Heartbreak Hotel*), Patsy Cline, Roy Orbison, the Everly Brothers, and even the actor Robert Mitchum (whom he accompanied on a version of *Little Ole Wine Drinker Me* in 1959).

Floyd Cramer was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, and grew up in Hutwig, Arkansas. He taught himself to play the piano and, after leaving high school, became a regular on the *Louisiana Hayride* radio show, where he met musicians such as Jim Reeves, Hank Williams Sr, and the then unknown young Elvis.

He moved to Nashville in



1955, when the country music capital was beginning to live up to its self-proclaimed status as "Music City USA" and emerging as a serious rival to New York and Los Angeles as a centre of the recording industry. He signed a contract with the RCA label and worked tirelessly as a session musician, honing his skills on countless records.

Cramer's delicate touch and characteristic slurring of notes set his keyboard work apart from the more percussive country and western norm. In the late 1950s, when the pianist and record producer Chet Atkins began to perfect the so-called "Nashville Sound", Cramer's smooth piano playing was an essential component of this more sophisticated style, helping to move country music away from its hillbilly roots and towards the mainstream of pop.

As well as featuring around the turn of the decade on a number of recordings which

typified the new sound, such as Don Gibson's great run of hits (*Oh Lonesome Me*, *I Can't Stop Loving You*, *Sweet Dreams*), Cramer had his first big solo success with *Last Date* in 1960. He subsequently made regular appearances in the US pop charts, notably with his vibrant *On the Rebound* and an atmospheric reading of Bob Wills's classic *San Antonio Rose*.

For the rest of his career, Cramer maintained a work-rate rivalled only, perhaps, by his longstanding friend Chet Atkins. As well as accompanying many of the most successful performers of the day, he released albums of his own at the rate of one, two or even three a year. He appeared regularly at the Grand Ole Opry and on the Nashville-based television show *See Haw*. His composition *My Blue Eyes* won a Grammy award in 1979 for the best country instrumental.

In later years he pursued a more middle-of-the-road career, enjoying a hit with the theme tune from the TV series *Dallas* in 1980, for instance, and using direct television marketing to sell his album *Floyd Cramer Performs Your All-Time Favourites*. Such easy-listening projects were proof that many of Cramer's fans had grown older with him, but for a younger generation of musicians, too, he remained an inspiration. He endowed a number of music scholarships at East Tennessee State University.

Floyd Cramer is survived by his wife Mary and two daughters.

PROFESSOR DONALD MacRAE

Donald MacRae, Martin White Professor of Sociology, University of London, died on December 23 aged 76. He was born on April 20, 1921.

DONALD MacRAE was a man of erudition, judgment and prodigious memory, whose contribution to the university world was, in a way, made by his presence in it and the range of reference his knowledge represented. He exercised influence on a generation of sociologists through conversation, sometimes of course, during tutorials, but just as often in "the daily walk of the mind's business". To him the university was less an administered entity than a self-governing fraternity of scholars in pursuit of understanding.

His own speciality was the historical development of our understanding of "the social". He pursued a humane vision centred on the sociological classics and offered intellectual tutelage and support to students unattracted by either positivism or Marxism. In particular, he gave pioneer direction to the sociology of religion, numbering among his graduate students Bryan Wilson and John Peel.

Donald Gunn MacRae was born near Glasgow, and after a rather lonely childhood largely spent roaming his grandfather's library on Skye — his father, an engineer, was often abroad, his mother a teacher and scholar of Celtic languages — he attended Glasgow High School before

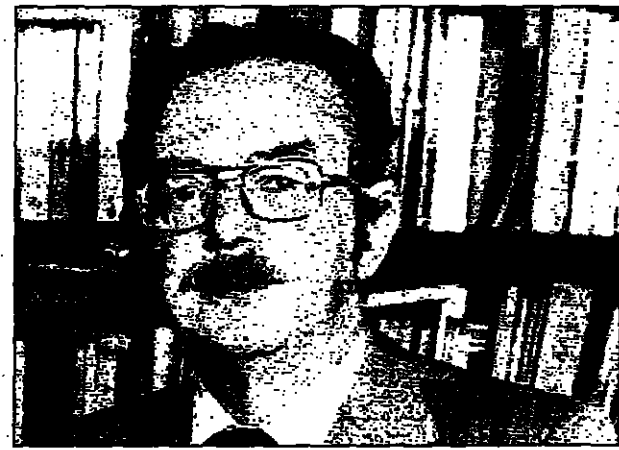
going, in 1938, to read history at Glasgow University. From there he went to Balliol in 1943 as MacLeod Scholar and Domus Exhibitioner, reading PPE and taking a starred first in 1945.

Almost immediately he joined the sociology department at the LSE, where he stayed throughout his career, apart from a year as lecturer in sociology at Oxford in 1949. He became Reader in 1954, and Professor in 1961, succeeding David Glass in the Martin White chair.

His main publications were *Ideology and Society* (1960); *The World of J.B. Priestley* (1967); an edition (with introduction) of Herbert Spencer's *The Man versus the State* (1969); *Agas and Stages* (1973); and *Max Weber* (1974). It was said that he never completed his projected volumes on the history of his subject.

Apart from periods at University College, Gold Coast (as it then was), and at Berkeley, Stanford and Witwatersrand Universities, MacRae involved himself in numerous activities, generally of a consultative kind. These included the Gaiskell Commission of Inquiry into Advertising, 1962-66; the Archbishop of Canterbury's Group on Divorce Law, 1964-66; and the New York-based International Council on the Future of the University, 1973-82. He was also chairman of the arts and social studies committee of the Council for National Academic Awards up to 1978.

Most notably, MacRae was the founding editor of the *British Journal of Sociology*.



1950-65, MacRae's term as an academic governor at LSE overlapped the time of trouble there in the late 1960s.

When Donald MacRae arrived at the LSE sociology department, it was about to shift away from the philosophical and comparative institutional approach of Hobhouse and Ginsberg to the demographic and empirical studies of social structure of D.V. Glass and his associates. Since MacRae (with Julius Gould) represented a philosophical and comparative approach rooted in history and politics, some tension was inevitable.

This was exacerbated by personal differences and also by political loyalties, given that MacRae associated himself with what might be called "the American Party" — such scholars as Daniel Bell, Edward Shils, Melvin Lasky and S.M. Lipset. Perhaps MacRae found himself most at home with people like Donald Watt and Leonard

From some viewpoints, Donald MacRae's career fell short of its promise and his own large and honourable ambition. He was inhibited by perfectionism and diverted by excess of gifts, for example, his early published poetry. It is to be suspected that he had come to conclusions about social life which were too bleak and contrary to be articulated. For him, the trouble was that the great banalities were after all mostly Scottish, whisky and above all by playing bridge.

Yet, at the same time, he was deeply committed to the thinkers of the Enlightenment, both Scottish and English. He regretted (medicine apart) not living in the worlds of Gibbon, Ferguson and Hume.

After his first stroke in 1993 his consolations were the care of his wife together with political biographies. Virgil and Homer, books on architecture, Scotland, whisky and Haydn. In matters of faith he considered most of the ground between Geneva and Rome something of a swamp and liked to quote William Camden's lines:

*Between the stirrup and the ground  
Mercy I asked, mercy I found.*

Donald MacRae is survived by his second wife and by two daughters from his first marriage.

University news

London School of Economics and Political Science

The following have been elected Honorary Fellows:  
Mrs Pat Barker, author and winner of the Booker Prize for *Fictions*; Dr Nicholas Garganas, Deputy Governor, Bank of Greece; Dame Rosalyn Higgins, CC, Judge of the International Court of Justice; Dr Navinshandra Rangopalan, Prime Minister of Mauritius; Professor Adam Roberts, FBA, Montague Burton Professor of International Relations and Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford; Mr Stephen Wheatcroft, Director of Aviation and Tourism International.

Manchester

Appointed to chairs  
Karel H. Williams, Reader in

Accounting and Finance and Director of Graduate Studies at the Graduate School of Social Sciences, Manchester University, to be Professor of Accounting and Political Economy from October 1.  
Jennie Andrew Peck, Reader in Geography, Manchester University, to be Professor of Geography from November 1.  
John Raymond Hook, Reader in Physics in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, Manchester University, to be Professor of Physics of Low Temperature Physics, Department of Physics and Astronomy, from October 1.  
Anthony Howell, Senior Lecturer in Medical Oncology, Manchester University, to be Professor of Medical Oncology from October 1.  
David Nicholas Fellows, FBA, Reader in Music at Manchester, to be Professor of Music from November 1.  
John Harris, Professor of Bioethics

and Applied Philosophy in the School of Education, Manchester University, was appointed to the newly established Alliance Chair of Bioethics on August 1.  
Grant of titles  
Dr Jacqueline Hayden, Dean of Postgraduate Medical Studies, as Professorial Fellow in the Department of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing from August 1.  
Dr A.H. Qureshi as Reader in International Economic Law from October 1, 1996, in lieu of his current appointment as Senior Lecturer in Law.  
Honorary and visiting appointments  
Professors D Foray and M Teubal to be Honorary Visiting Professors in the ESRC Centre for Research on Innovation and Competition for three years from January 1, 1997.  
Professor R.J. Stone, Director of Research and Development at the

Wolfson Centre, to be Honorary Visiting Professor of Virtual Reality in the Department of Surgery for three years from August 1, 1997.  
Dr P.H. Cowley to be Honorary Visiting Professor in the Manchester School of Engineering from October 31, 2000.  
Appointments  
Ian N Hampson as Senior Lecturer in Gynaecological Oncology.  
Ian Hindle as Senior Lecturer in Oral Surgery in the Department of Dental Medicine and Surgery.  
Veronique Ming Pin-Fat as Lecturer in International Relations and International Political Economy in Dept of Government.  
Yong Chang Wang, as Senior Lecturer in Engineering.  
Rorden M. E. C. Wilkinson, as Lecturer in International Relations and International Political Economy in Dept of Government.  
Peter W. R. Woodruff, as Senior Lecturer in Adult Psychiatry.

SKI-ING IN SURREY.  
A TRAVERSE OF LEITH HILL.

(From a Member of the Alpine Club).  
The disadvantage of the ski is the difficulty of transporting them within the confines of London. On the return from a previous expedition, I was unfortunate enough to find myself with them on the Underground during the evening "rush hour," and very awkward and unpopular they proved. On the railways the officials have not yet made up their minds whether or not ski should rank as bicycles. One thing is certain, however — they are not carried at their "owner's risk," but at other people's.  
Yesterday I solved the problem by starting at an early hour from Waterloo in company with two friends, both expert ski runners of the Alpine Club. On leaving the train at Dorking we became the object of various remarks. The most popular theory in England is that the ski runner progresses in a series of gigantic leaps across country, and smallurchins, gathered to watch us pass, urged us to put them on and jump.  
From Dorking we travelled by omnibus to South Holmwood, where we strapped on ski and set off in the direction of Leith Hill. The day was a beautiful one, as a New Year's

ON THIS DAY

January 2, 1928



On a beautiful New Year's Day, with the sun shining on the snow, three experienced skiers made for Surrey and put on "them new-fangled contraptions" for some fine runs to Dorking.  
Dry should be the sun shone brightly and the newly-fallen snow of Saturday sparkled like gems on the old and dirty snow of the previous storm.  
We passed up a narrow lane with great drifts on either hand, and, turning off to the right, struck straight up the eastern slopes of Leith Hill. Here, as we slid along between ranks of stately pines, I was reminded of a Tirolean landscape. It needed but a majestic snow peak rising from the hazy Weald of Sussex to complete the illusion.  
Ski-ing in England is thirsty work, and we were glad to slide down to the inn at

Coldharbour for refreshment. Several pedestrians were present, and once again we were greeted with admiration and suspicion. Admiration on the part of youth, suspicion from old age. The latter, ably represented by old "Jarge," had it that it would take something to get him about on "them new-fangled contraptions," which it obviously would.  
After luncheon we continued on our way to the summit of Leith Hill, nearly 1,000ft above sea level. The day was now dull, and we looked down through a dun-coloured haze towards the Weald, which seemed thousands of feet below, so deceptive is our atmosphere.  
Some splendid wood running brought us to the pretty village of Abinger, nestling snugly in its sheltered valley. Perhaps the only exciting portion of this run was a steep narrow path. The tendency on these occasions is for the first man to fall and for his followers to pile themselves on top of him.  
From Abinger we slid across country to Dorking and very enjoyably going we found it. The snow was thawing in the streets of Dorking, and it is said to think that the perfect crystal snow, over which we have glided so lightly in the last few days, will soon vanish, perhaps not to return to this country for many years.



NEWS

Loyalist group admits attack

The breakaway Loyalist Volunteer Force claimed responsibility for the New Year's Eve machinegun attack on a Roman Catholic pub in North Belfast and gave a warning: "This is not the end."

The LVF said the attack which killed one man and left five others injured was further revenge for the murder of Billy Wright, its leader, by the Irish National Liberation Army in the Maze prison last Saturday.

Kennedy family mourn another tragedy

The Kennedy family are mourning another tragic loss after the son of the late Senator Robert Kennedy died in a skiing accident in Colorado. Michael LeMoine Kennedy, 39, died on New Year's Eve after crashing into a tree while skiing with his family in Aspen.

Tanker aground

Marine rescue services were at full stretch trying to save 29 crewmen on a 22,637-ton oil tanker which was "bouncing" off Thatcher Rock near Torquay in atrocious conditions.

Fewer students

New universities are trying to stave off a shortfall of admissions next autumn by tempting students to enrol this spring to beat the introduction of £1,000 tuition fees.

Rebels join Greens

Two rebel Labour MEPs have intensified their battle with the party over the welfare state by accepting honorary membership of the Green Group.

Diana fund

The first donations from the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund are to be handed out within weeks to causes closest to her heart.

Hit and run deaths

Two women were killed in front of their friends and families by hit-and-run drivers in two separate incidents as they joined new year celebrations.

Petrol ceasefire

Petrol companies and supermarkets are expected to be urged by the Office of Fair Trading to call a ceasefire in their price war to prevent the closure of thousands of rural filling stations.

Britain accused of spying on EU

Britain's relations with the European Union may deteriorate further with the disclosure that successive foreign secretaries have used MI6 to spy on our partners. The confirmation that Britain's intelligence network, reputedly Europe's most effective, has been eavesdropping on Brussels, Paris and Bonn comes days after Tony Blair took over the presidency.



Aldo Corrieri dives into the River Tiber from the Cavour Bridge, Rome, yesterday for the traditional New Year Day swim.

Insurance deal

Sir Mark Weinberg's Life Assurance Holdings is paying £316 million for GAN Life, the French-owned life insurer that has one of the worst records of clearing up the personal pensions mis-selling scandal.

Last bet

Coral, the betting shops, may disappear from the high street after Ladbroke Group confirmed that it is to buy the chain from Bass for £375.5 million.

Foreign spend

Overseas investors ploughed £4.2 billion into UK property last year, almost twice the £2.2 billion spent in 1996.

Christmas cards

Barclaycard said that £1.8 billion was spent on its cards in December, with £1,600 a second going through the system at peak periods.

Football

The head of the FA's security operation has expressed concern over the number of tickets available to England supporters at the World Cup.

Sports broadcasting

The fiftieth anniversary of Sports Report, on the day of the third round of the FA Cup, is an ideal time to toast the radio programme that has become an institution.

Sailing

Sir Robin Knox-Johnston reflects on the challenges that lie ahead for Tracey Edwards and the all-female crew who are attempting to break the round the world sailing record.

Rugby league

Leeds and Castleford shared an entertaining 22-22 draw in their traditional new year derby match.

Greatest hits

Never mind the No.1 Christmas single, says David Sinclair - the big money is on those compilation albums that nobody talks about but everybody buys.

Future shock

Cadfin Moran gazes into her crystal ball for some pop predictions for 1998, and tips three completely unknown bands for chart stardom.

Carry on nurse

Babes in the Wood in Norwich has all the traditional panty ingredients, and a magnificently hatted dame in Desmond Barritt's Nurse Gloucester.

Happy new year

The composer Diana Burrell will be 50 this year, and is celebrating with new energy, new directions and a South Bank concert series.

Cover-up

"At long last, my passport to womanhood." Jane Shilling tries foundation make-up.

Boarder lines

Three generations of Wykehamists say why they are in favour of boarding schools and one-Rugby pupil explains why he is against.

Problem

Why did a seminar at a training fair attract so few potential teachers?

Mag world

We have gone magazine-crazy. But how many more can the market take?

Raymond Snoddy

Chris Evans takes over Virgin Radio, Mr BSKYB resigns after saving the company, ITV hires a new boss to restore its fortunes: the comings and goings in the media year.

Past perfect

Was Perfect Day, the ad that wasn't an ad, the most commercial of the year?

Attention focuses on Kenya

because it is an African country that seemed to have a lot going for it but that has come into uncertain times, mostly for reasons of its own flawed leadership. Mr Moi is still the President. He should be providing the calming leadership that would help his country avoid going over the edge.

Preview: The London Batmales are back for a new series. Game On (BBC2, 9.45pm). Review: Matthew Bond takes a peep into a media future. Pages 38, 39

Mean streets

Violence on public transport, in schools and above all in no-hope suburbs now ranks with unemployment among the French public's chief anxieties.

Kinsey's way

Kinsey was not so much a scientist as a campaigner for greater sexual liberation who used science as his chosen vehicle.

MATTHEW PARRIS

Just after dawn a few Sundays ago, I was upstairs sleeping soundly in Derbyshire. Through my dreams came a doorknock. I staggered to the window. At the door, beneath was a stranger. "What is it?" I shouted. "Your flames are out. They're on the road." Page 16

JOHN LLOYD

Two suns are being unchained in our political cosmos and we, together with new Labour, must live through the consequences. The first, and most unequivocal, is the death of the socialist project within the Labour Party. The less explicit has been the challenge to parliamentary supremacy.

ALAN COREN

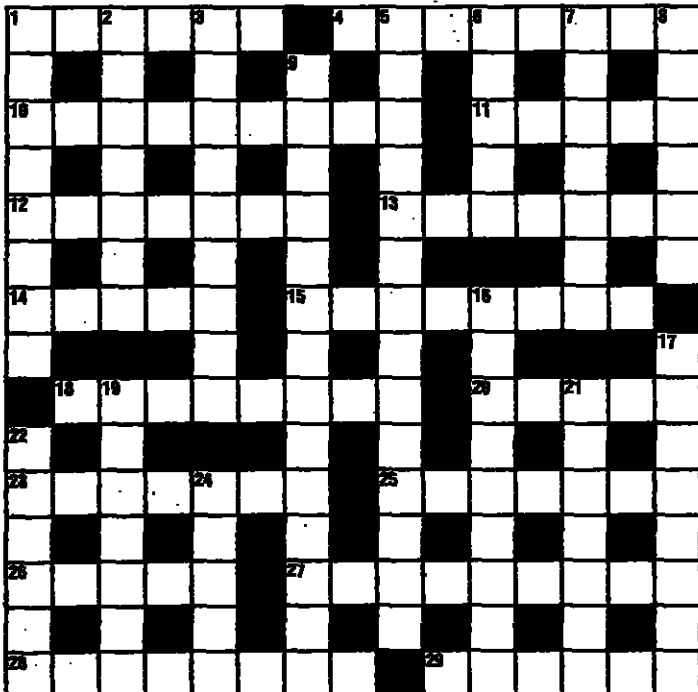
Suddenly I knew what I would offer my readers for 1998. I would offer them the chance to get out of Christmas for good. I would offer them a brief rundown on a few other fads to which they might sensibly convert, to avoid all this.

Nancy Silver, headmistress; Major-General J.A. McIlvenna, Legal Corps; Professor Donald MacRae, sociologist; Floyd Cramer, country musician. Page 19

Devolution "bad for Britain": taxing cars off the road; VAT and charities; review of Royal Family's 1997 workload; restaurant vegetables; prostate cancer. Page 17

8, 13, 18, 21, 23, 29. Bonus 30. Six winners shared £4.2 million

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,678



- ACROSS
1 A short time in incredible servitude (6).
4 Class liable to criticise insincere words (8).
10 Times building providing services, starting with a carpet (9).
11 Furniture right, up to this point (2,3).
12 Unfinished drama shown to performing sections of company (7).
13 Abuse making Tom, for one, cry (7).
14 Pursued an occupation as a dressmaker (5).
15 People in a state as I had no bananas (8).
18 Philosopher's follower so politically enlightened, ignoring demo (8).
20 Half-hearted trivial complaint rejected in Scottish town (5).
23 Inform of an award in speech (7).
25 Getting Italian meal, sink is in the way (7).
26 Put one's foot down to get student, finally, to study (5).
27 Love to act, getting into a part (9).
28 Allowing one across is barely adequate (8).
29 Girl standing on mountain in part of Asia (6).
DOWN
1 One's speechless, as a rule (8).
2 A politician interrupting wild speech that's out of control (7).
3 Rural road runs round county, one of real wealth (9).
5 Minister and nobleman happen to turn up (4,10).
6 Assume one's in a job (5).
7 Check about Italian monk in the chorus (7).
8 Conditional release of men locked up in enclosed area (6).
9 Belated shock as litigant - he isn't to be represented (5,2,3,4).
16 Exaggerate old distance travelled in Russia to eat out (9).
17 Gather to meet new Capone of the underworld (8).
19 Unjustly treat pair captured by misbehaving posse (7).
21 Making jokes, but getting silence (7).
22 Computer circuit finally doesn't work (6).
24 Leaders of it nurture democracy in Asia (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,677
ACROSS STOPPAGE
H V U O N L
DOZE BEASTATE
L R G E S T C
DECARE FREEBOO
R R G A S M O
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Highest sunrise: Exeter, 5.57

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up of 43% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the second half of 1996

General: today will be a cool, showery day. The showers will be heavy at times in western Scotland, Northern Ireland and western England and Wales, with hail possible. Eastern parts of Scotland and England will see the best of the day's sunshine and the least of the showers, with some places staying dry. In southern England the showers could also be heavy, especially towards Channel coasts, where it will be very windy. A new spell of rain accompanied by very strong winds will affect western areas early tomorrow morning.
London, S E England, E Angles, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Central N, N E England: bright and breezy with spells of sunshine and the odd shower. Fresh southwest wind. Max 10C (50F).
Central S England, Channel Isles: sunshine and heavy showers. Fresh to strong west to southwest wind. Max 11C (52F).
S W England, S Wales, N Wales, N W England, Lake District, Isle of Man: blustery with sunny spells and showers, falling off. Fresh southwest wind. Max 9C (48F).
Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth: sunny spells, then clouding over with a few showers, especially in the west. Fresh southwest wind. Max 8C (48F).
S W Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, N E Scotland, Argyll, N W Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: windy with frequent sunny showers. Strong and gusty south to southwest wind. Max 8C (48F).
N Ireland: windy with frequent heavy showers and brief sunny spells. Strong to near gale force southwest wind, easing later. Max 7C (45F).
Republic of Ireland: very windy and showery, dry for a while later. Wind west or southwest, fresh or strong. Max 9C (48F).
Outlook: stormy in many areas tomorrow with some winds of gale force and higher, and there will be heavy rain for a while. Sunday will be brighter and less windy, but colder.

Table with columns: Sun, Rain, Cloud, Wind, Max, Min. Lists weather conditions for various UK locations like Aberdeen, Angles, Argyll, etc.

Table with columns: Location, Sun, Rain, Cloud, Wind, Max, Min. Lists weather conditions for various European locations like Alicante, Athens, Athens, etc.



Changes to chart below from noon: low R gradually falls and drifts west towards Greenland; low S rapidly deepens and sweeps north east across northern Scotland



Table with columns: TODAY, AM, HT, PM, HT. Lists temperature forecasts for various UK locations like Aberdeen, Aberdeen, Aberdeen, etc.

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INSIDE SECTION

2 TODAY



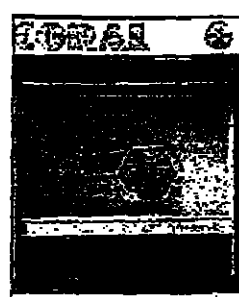
SPORT

Pagel lends weight to Northampton PAGES 21-28



MEDIA

Raymond Snoddy meets the TV guru Janet Hughes PAGES 30, 31



BUSINESS

Bets are off for Coral after sale to Ladbroke PAGE 40

TELEVISION AND RADIO

PAGES 38, 39

FRIDAY JANUARY 2 1998

Celtic must end barren ten-match sequence to prevent champions stretching lead

Jansen set to call time on Rangers

By Kevin McCarran

AS A foreigner, Wim Jansen has had to familiarise himself with Scottish life...

Today, at Celtic Park, in the third Old Firm game of the season, the Dutchman has another opportunity to snap the sequence...

Against sides that are intent on hostile and bustling, the pattern and discipline that Jansen seeks can falter...

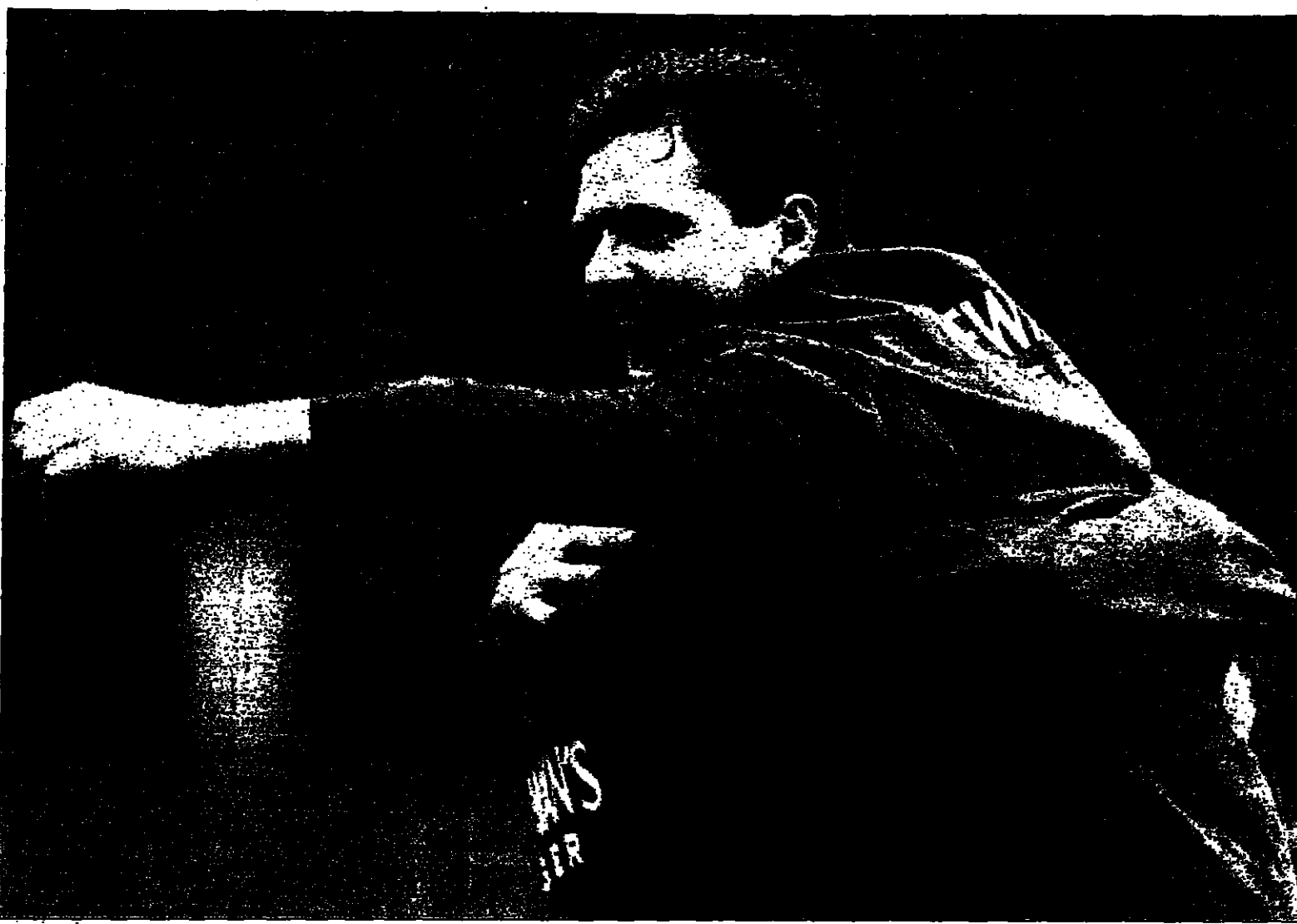
Rangers are happy to accentuate the impression of stability at Ibrox, knowing that it may sound ominous to Celtic after injuries and suspensions...

fitness," Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, said, "but his general fitness is fine. Experience of Old Firm games could be an important factor when I am deciding who to pick...

"Gascoigne and Jonas Thern might come into that category. The decision I have is whether to let them start the game or bring them on later."

Smith is hardly in torment over this decision, but since his team has scored nine goals in its past two matches, the choice is a tricky one. Jorg Albertz has been in his best form since signing for Rangers in 1996...

In both Old Firm matches this season, Celtic have played poorly yet still conceded only a single goal on each occasion. If they are to be victorious this afternoon, that same cohesion will have to spread throughout the team...



Gascoigne, sent off in the last Old Firm encounter, is available for Rangers again this afternoon...

Hibernian reveal hidden depths

Heart of Midlothian 2 Hibernian 2

By Kevin McCarran

BEFORE this match, no one could tell quite what it would take to provoke Hibernian into life. Yesterday, at Tynecastle, the answer was provided...

The failure to crush their Edinburgh rivals when they might have done so will be punished by more than a bout of dejection at Hearts. A win would have taken them to the top of the table...

has kept Duffy in employment. His team have played 15 matches without a victory, but if the revival in spirit can be sustained then results, too, should improve...

When Harper, the forward, began blazing down the right and skirting past Pointon, the Hearts full back, the first suspicions that Hibernian were not doomed to despair began to develop...

At the outset, they were incapable of protecting themselves. Chris Reid had already made an athletic save from Adam, before Hearts scored in the sixth minute...

Deans, the centre half who has been injured, was appearing in the Hibernian side for the first time since February of last year...

showed why we are at the bottom of the table and in the second we looked as if we should be further up it."

Jim Jefferies, his Hearts counterpart, is also a believer in the possibility of transformation. "I told the players at the interval that it definitely wasn't over..."

Harper bounded past Pointon and pulled over a cross. Rousset, the Hearts goalkeeper, advanced and was deceived by the wind that took the ball away from him...

World Cup ticket fears 22 Hereford's mission 22 Misery for Bodin 22

advanced and slipped a shot low into the net. "The only good thing about the first half was that we were only 2-0 down at the end of it..."

Although Reid soon had to make a fine double save from Fulton and then Cameron, Hibernian were no longer downcast. After 67 minutes, Crawford set up Dow for a low cross...

Sports Report stays in tune with changing times

Tomorrow afternoon is a busy one for sport - it sees, among other things, the FA Cup third round - so there will be little time for congratulations...

Both are legacies of a bygone age, but to Sports Report they remain stubbornly appropriate. Perhaps they bestow order and seriousness upon activities that would be little without them...

Simon Wilde pays tribute to a radio programme that remains a fixture on Saturday afternoons

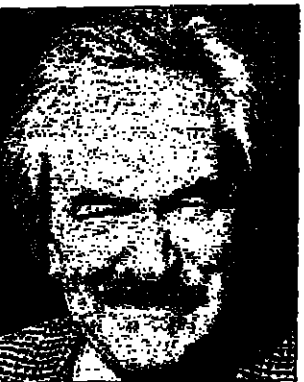
credit of the programme's creators that it has changed so little over the years. Gill Pulsford, the present producer, said this week at a lunch to mark the half-century...

port from Portsmouth v Huddersfield Town by a young John Arlott. It was an immediate hit with a public hungry for instant sports news...

programme was extended to an hour to get the football results on earlier, but that was the last big structural change. The greatest upheaval has involved the frequency on which it went out...

show that starts at 1pm. Since then it has been carried on Radio 3 (the Third Programme's successor), Radio 2 and, now, Radio 5 Live. To mark the occasion, tomorrow's Sports on Five programme will begin an hour earlier to take in a 60-minute retrospective and when Sports Report begins, there will be a brief television link anchored by Steve Rider...

stored after a public outcry, but no one has basked more warmly in its glow than Gordon, who has read the football results for the past 25 years - half the programme's life. The task of reading the football results might never have come his way had his predecessor, Jimmy Kingsbury, not overlooked the essential seriousness of the job. On his first day, he preaced the first result by saying to an expectant audience bent over their pools coupons: "Eyes down, children... May your felt tips never run dry..."

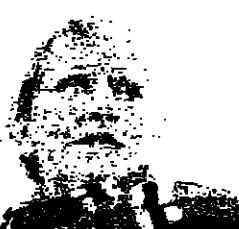


Voices that have contributed to an enduring success story (from left to right): Andrews, Lynam, Gordon and Arlott

TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

GAZZA IN GLASGOW England and Rangers expect in 1998

UP FOR THE CUP Oliver Holt meets Mark Hughes and Emley prepare for their big day



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# England appeal over World Cup ticket allocation



Mellor concerned

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

AMID growing fears that England will receive too few tickets for the World Cup finals in France this year, the Football Association is to ask the tournament organisers for a larger allocation. The FA fears that if its complement is not increased, supporters will turn to the black market, which could make it impossible to segregate rival fans.

Under the present rules, 60 per cent of the tickets are intended for the French market, 20 per cent will go to Fifa, the sport's world governing body, and only 20 per cent will be shared between the competing sides. In a stadium seating 40,000, the 20,000 members of the England Travel Club

and thousands of other supporters would be chasing only 4,000 tickets.

Sir Brian Hayes, deputy commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, is leading the FA's security operation at the finals and is to meet French police and tournament officials later this month. He confirmed yesterday that the FA will be seeking more tickets.

"With 20,000 people registered with the England Travel Club, it gives you some idea of the potential demand," Sir Brian said. "Also remember that people can travel in three hours to Lens, where one of England's games is being played. The FA will be making a strong case to get their allocation increased."

Sir Brian acknowledged the pos-

sibility of trouble among supporters, especially if they were unable to buy tickets or had purchased them for the wrong areas in the grounds. "There is still a problem when fans travel abroad but, over the past few years, we have built up a tremendous reservoir of expertise," he said.

"We already know from making contact with the French that they are very keen to listen. I shall be raising such matters as their general policy on ticket control, segregation, how they will handle fans going to and from grounds and inside them, and hope they are going to cope with the enormous movement of fans across the country."

David Mellor, head of the Government's football task force, is

similarly concerned. "I think there is going to be a terrible black market in those tickets and it would be awful if the World Cup was marred by spectator trouble," he said yesterday.

Manchester United supporters have called for a meeting with club officials to resolve the increasing problem of fans standing in seated areas during matches at Old Trafford. Some supporters claim they have faced bullying and intimidation from ground stewards.

The matter came to a head during the game against Everton on Boxing Day, when fans fought with stewards as they tried to eject them from behind the East End goal.

Andy Walsh, a spokesman for

the Manchester United Independent Supporters' Association, said: "The next home game is against Spurs on January 10 and we have to meet to talk about it before then. The brutality of some of the security staff has got beyond a joke."

Gillian Howarth, the association's secretary, said: "The problem has grown into open defiance now. More people are standing up to protest at the way they are being treated. It is becoming a confrontation between the security men and the fans. People are being ejected, they have their photo taken and their season ticket withdrawn. They're treated like vermin. When we've asked for meetings with the club in the past, we've been refused."

After the Everton match, Ken Ramsden, a United spokesman, said: "We aren't saying the fans can't sing and chant. They can stand up in moments of excitement but what we are talking about here is standing up permanently." Maurice Watkins, a United director, said yesterday: "Any complaints against our stewards or security staff will be looked at."

Christian Gross, the beleaguered Tottenham Hotspur manager, has suffered another setback with the loss of Allan Nielsen, the Denmark midfielder, for the FA Cup third-round tie against Fulham on Monday. Nielsen broke a bone in his ankle in the 1-1 draw against Arsenal at White Hart Lane on Sunday and is likely to be on the sidelines for at least a month.

## David Powell on the club trying to escape Ronnie Radford's shadow

# Hereford resolve to rewrite history



Graham Turner's secretary, Joan, was in her office trying to cope with the phone calls. The new year programme was placing extra demands on those staff remaining at Hereford United after the redundancies that followed the club's loss of Nationwide League status last May. As usual, when Hereford are on an FA Cup run, people wanted to know where Ronnie Radford was.

"I have been here 18 years and I am sick of it," Joan said. Of that goal, "Neil Grayson has got to score one to kill that Ronnie Radford goal so we never hear that name again." She has worked under ten managers at Hereford, but the name that keeps coming up is Ronnie Radford.

Even Turner, the Hereford director of football, admits to being fed up with it, though one imagines that, if the Vauxhall Conference club's directors shared that view, they would have taken down the photograph in the boardroom by now. It is still there on the wall in black and white: "Goal of the Century", the caption reads, though Radford is not in shot. The boot that launched the cannonball is 30 yards away from the Newcastle United goalkeeper in the shot.

Goal of the century? As far as Hereford's history is concerned, it remains so, but there are 24 months to go. However, for Grayson, the club's leading scorer, to have a chance of granting Joan her wish, Hereford will need to beat Tranmere Rovers in the third round on Sunday. It is no good scoring a fabulous goal to eliminate a first division club. You cannot score the goal of the century against Tranmere. It has to put out a big club, like Newcastle United.

Newcastle, from the old first division, were beaten 2-1 by non-league Hereford at Edgar Street in 1972. Radford scored the equaliser. Ricky George the winner. At the end of that season, Hereford entered the Football League, but, in 25 years before dropping out again, their spoon hardly made a sound against the trophy. Now they are a non-league club again, they are up to old tricks.

After six seasons in which they eliminated only one league club and became one of non-league football's favourite dishes, going out to Yeovil Town, Bath City and Hitchin Town, Hereford have rolled over two league opponents this season. In the first round they put Brighton, who had consigned them to the Conference. In the second round, they defeated Colchester United.



Radford's thunderbolt out of the Edgar Street mud in 1972 helps to eliminate Newcastle United and enters the realms of FA Cup legend

"Why me?" Turner said. "I could not believe it could happen so soon after Brighton." But the equaliser came and now the fourth round is beckoning. They have never been beyond that stage.

The only bull Turner talks is Freetown Kudus, the club mascot, a one-ton Herefordshire beast occasionally padded before matches. Not this Sunday, though. "Haven't had time to think about it," Joan said. There is refreshing straight talking in Turner's replies to key questions. Formerly the manager of Aston Villa and Wolverhampton Wanderers, is he content at Hereford? Certainly not. Ambition still burns.

"There might be an opportunity to manage somewhere bigger than Hereford," Turner — "a young 50" — said. "People knew that when I came but, if the opportunity comes up, it must mean I have done something here." Next question. Which is more important, beating Kidderminster Harriers in the Conference yesterday or Tranmere? "It's got to be Tranmere," he replied. No platitudes about the league being the bread and butter.

His reasons are "financial". A glamour tie would earn Hereford some £200,000. "That would ease our financial problems," Turner said. He did not want to draw

after their 4-1 win away to Kidderminster yesterday. Hereford are 19 points behind Halifax, the Conference leaders. If John Aldridge, the watching Tranmere manager, left uneasy at the quality of Hereford's play, he may be comforted to know that Richard Leadbeater will not be available on Sunday. Leadbeater played a part in all four Hereford goals, scoring three and making the other, but, as a loan signing, he is prohibited from playing in the Cup.

Going out of the league was Turner's most traumatic football experience. "I had never seen so many grown men cry in the boardroom, on the terraces, in the dressing room," he said. If bulls could cry, Freetown Kudus would no doubt have been standing in a puddle. At Wolves, Turner left when abuse from fans became intolerable. At Hereford, supporters voted to raise admission prices this season in a survival gesture.

Relegation inspired a book on the club *Hereford United: The League Era*. Ron Parratt, the author, suggests that David Icke, the broadcaster turned Green Party eccentric, is "arguably Hereford's best-known former player", a goalkeeper in their first league season. Try telling that to Joan.

Cheltenham Town were similarly held to their fixture at Yeovil Town — who were anxious not to miss out on a big holiday attendance — before their cup tie against Reading at Whaddon Road tomorrow. A 2-1 defeat, before a crowd of 3,657, brought to an end Cheltenham's run without defeat that extends to 17 Conference matches or 24 games including the FA Cup.

The result enabled Halifax Town to restore their seven-point lead at the head of the table. They gained swift revenge for their defeat at Gateshead on Boxing Day with a 2-0 win over the same opponents at The Shay, thanks to two goals by Geoff Horsfield, whose tally in the Conference this season now stands at 25.

With Hedgesford Town losing 2-1 at Kettering Town, Woking going down 3-0 at Farnborough Town and Morecambe managing only a 1-1 draw at Southport, results all round ran in favour of George Mulhall's team.

Feeling bullish: Turner, right, and Freetown Kudus, the club's famous mascot



Feeling bullish: Turner, right, and Freetown Kudus, the club's famous mascot



Supporters acclaim one of Hereford's four goals yesterday

## Laugh on Talbot as Stevenage take spoils

By Walter Gammie

PAUL FAIRCLOUGH, the Stevenage Borough manager, had the last laugh after his clash with Brian Talbot, head coach of Rushden and Diamonds, who had refused his request to postpone the clubs' Vauxhall Conference match at Broadhall Way yesterday afternoon.

"Football has a nasty habit of slapping you in the face," Fairclough had said beforehand by way of appropriate psychology in trying to negate the advantage Talbot had sought by insisting the fixture went ahead just two days before Stevenage visit Swindon Town in the FA Cup third round.

Sure enough the move blew up in Talbot's face as Rushden's run of four Conference victories, the last a 2-0 win over Stevenage on Boxing Day, came to an end. It had looked promising enough when Darren Collins put Rushden ahead before half-time with his thirteenth goal of the season, but Stevenage struck twice in rapid succession after half-time to wrest a valuable 2-1 win.

The goals were scored by Dean Wordsworth and Giuliano Grazioli, the strikers recruited by Fairclough just before Christmas to try to give his team the cutting edge that it has lacked this season.

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Kettering and Telford United, who gained their second victory under Jimmy Mullen, their recently-appointed director of coaching, when beating Leek Town 3-0, are now only a win away from dropping Kidderminster Harriers, runners-up last season, into a relegation place.

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## Reading between the lines of Bodin's card trick

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Bodin: bemused

Russell Kempson on a case of wrongful dismissal that a senior professional player will not be challenging

Paul Bodin, the Reading defender, has been forced to accept a three-match suspension for an offence he did not commit. Reading, the Nationwide League first division club, have decided not to appeal against his bizarre dismissal in the 0-0 draw against Wolverhampton Wanderers at Elm Park on December 20.

Video replays have shown that Bodin was not involved in the 38th-minute incident, when Gareth Davies, Reading's recent £100,000 signing from Crystal Palace, tackled Robbie Keane. Davies then playfully ruffled Keane's hair, which resulted in the Wolves striker tumbling dramatically to the ground.

Steve Bennett, the referee, took advice from one of his assistants and sent off a clearly bemused Bodin. It was the first time the former Wales player had been dismissed in a career spanning 17 years. "I couldn't believe it," Bodin said yesterday. "I was at least ten yards away and didn't even see what had happened."

"You usually know what the ref is referring to when something has gone on but when he said to me, 'You know what you did', I said 'I hadn't a clue. He said his linesman had seen it. It was almost laugh-

able at the time, but it's not so funny now."

Terry Bullivant, the Reading manager, initially intended to appeal against the decision but changed his mind. Bodin, 33, has started only three matches this season and was making his first appearance in four months only because of an injury to Steve Swales, the full back.

Had Reading pursued their appeal, it is likely that Bodin would have been exonerated and that Davies, a central defender, would have incurred, the suspension in-

stead. Reading have a dearth of central defenders: at present, with Linvoy Primus, Keith McPherson, Dariusz Wdowczyk and Michael Thorp absent through injury.

"It was the club's decision and I have to accept it," Bodin said diplomatically. "I have spoken to Terry and we have come to an agreement on behalf of the club. What upsets me is that I'd never been sent off before and I had hoped it would never happen. I'd waited a long time to get back in the side and then it lasted only 38 minutes."

Bodin is still hoping that the case of mistaken identity can be resolved. "I want this to be erased from my record," he said. "I'll have to serve my suspension but the manager has said he will try and clear my name afterwards."

The Football Association is powerless to intervene unless it receives notice from the alleged offender's club. "We take the referee's report as final unless an appeal is lodged," an FA spokesman said yesterday. "If there is no appeal, then the sending-off will stand."

Bodin will miss Reading's FA Cup third-round tie away to Cheltenham Town, the Vauxhall Conference side, tomorrow.

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All-female crew has opportunity to end gibes about lack of competitiveness

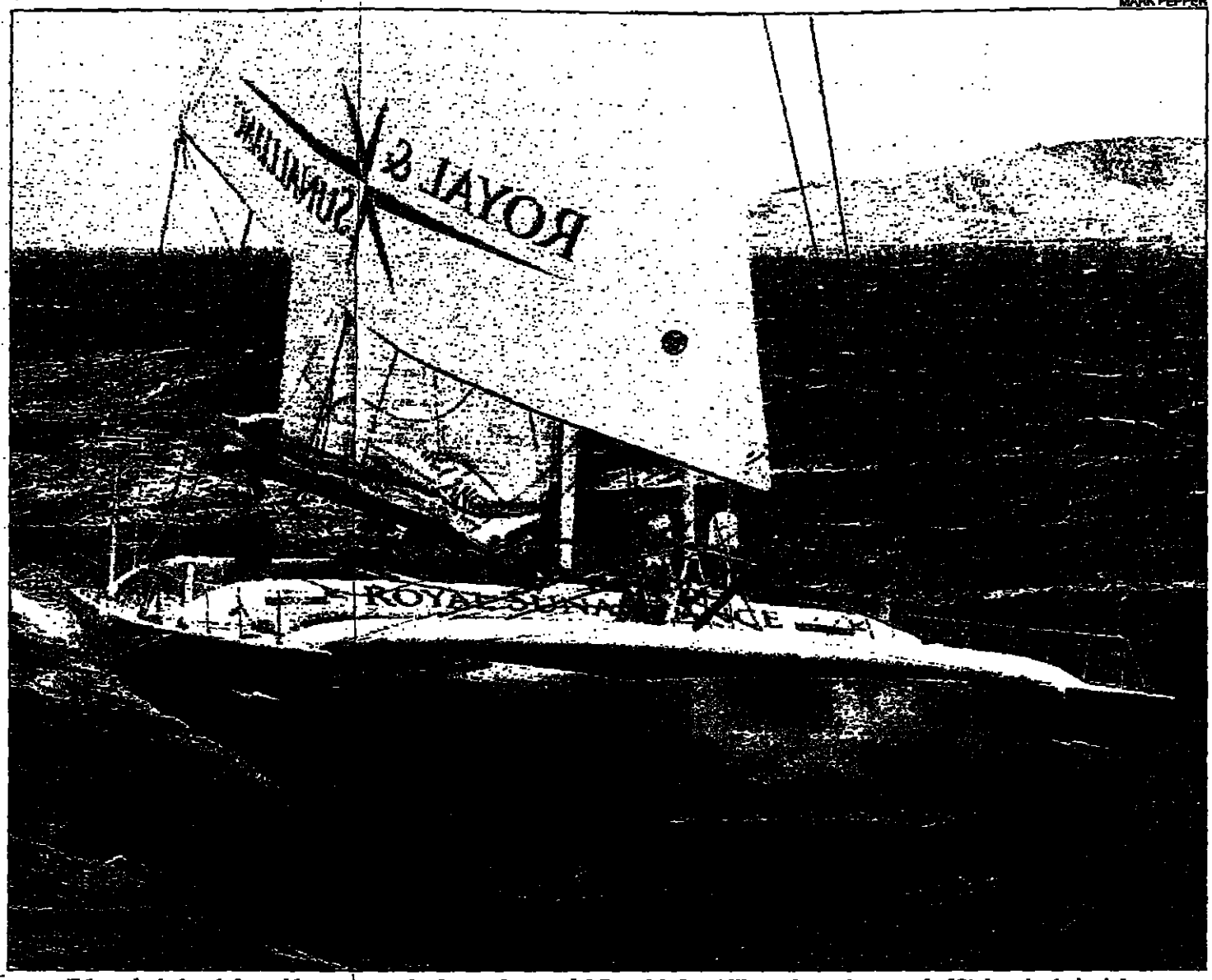
Edwards can rule the world



Robin Knox-Johnston says that desire, not gender, is the vital factor in attempt to break circumnavigation record

As Tracey Edwards and her crew prepare to attempt to break the round-the-world sailing record of just over 71 days, the inevitable question is, can an all-female team do it? The three boats that have beaten 80 days in a ferocious dash that makes the Whitbread race seem like a Sunday cruise have been crewed exclusively by males.

Racing a catamaran, you keep the weather hull kissing the water. It's a skill you learn, like riding an unbalanced bicycle. It requires stamina, skill and determination, and total adoption of the philosophy that perceives a large ocean wave as an opportunity, not a threat. These are not attributes confined to males.



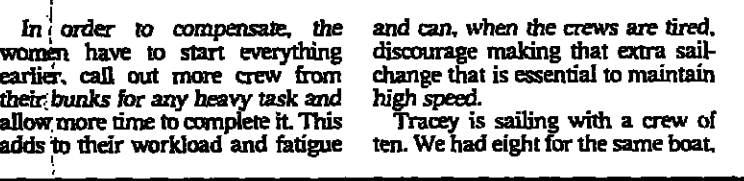
Edwards, below left, and her crew on the fast and powerful Royal & Sun Alliance have the record of 71 days in their sights

Navigation on modern ocean racers requires an intimate knowledge of isolars rather than to be handy with a sextant. Steering, too, is something where experience and feel are paramount, whereas sail-trimming can be learnt by anyone with patience. The sex of the crew has absolutely nothing to do with ability in any of these activities.

Only on the sheer physical hard work are the women at a disadvantage, because they will not be able to lift and haul the heavy sails as quickly or easily. Men can throw their weight into moving something heavy which might require twice as many smaller females. This gives them a distinct advantage in the handling of the boat. One can do the work of two and does not need backing up as much.

destination sooner by reading the weather better. Navigators on modern ocean racers require an intimate knowledge of isolars rather than to be handy with a sextant. Steering, too, is something where experience and feel are paramount, whereas sail-trimming can be learnt by anyone with patience. The sex of the crew has absolutely nothing to do with ability in any of these activities.

but eight experienced sailors, six of whom had circumnavigated before. This gave us strength in depth, so that even when Peter Blake was injured and confined to his bunk for ten days, we continued to maintain a relentless average speed of 17.5 knots. Even so, we called all hands on deck for any sail-change to get it done faster, so that we were constantly pressurising the time, not feeling its pressure on us.



In order to compensate the women have to start everything earlier, call out more crew from their bunks for any heavy task and allow more time to complete it. This adds to their workload and fatigue

BOWLS

Singling out for Smith and Richards

By David Knys Jones

THE treatment meted out to two of the world's best bowlers by the England selectors raises the question of whether the high-profile (televised) game of singles has anything to do with the daily grind of team events in the mainstream game. Are the two, by any chance, related?

CRICKET: YORKSHIRE BOWLER OFFERS SYMPATHY TO TEAM-MATE

Silverwood's revival complete



Silverwood has his last net with the England A squad yesterday

CHRIS SILVERWOOD was reflecting on the rapidly fluctuating fortunes of international cricket as he prepared to join the England party yesterday for the tour of the West Indies. Silverwood was recalled from the A team tour of Kenya and Sri Lanka after Darren Gough withdrew with a hamstring injury.

By OUR SPORTS STAFF we talk quite a lot about cricket together. He has really helped me with my game and I am really disappointed for him. Graham Gooch came into my room and told me about Darren and that I was going out to the West Indies to replace him. I wasn't aware I was on stand-by if anybody was injured on the main tour so it was a major surprise to me.

bonus and I'll be going out there to enjoy it." Mike Gatting, the England A coach, urged his remaining pace bowlers to accept the extra responsibility forced upon them by Silverwood's departure. Gatting, who is now without a strike bowler with Test experience, hopes players like James Ormond, of Leicestershire, and Paul Hitchison, of Yorkshire, will respond to the extra pressure and confirm their potential.

Happier prospect for England Under-19s

WITH the start of the Under-19 World Cup in South Africa less than a fortnight away, England Under-19 will discover in the next few days how they compare with the host nation at the one-day game (John Stern writes).

play the game too much off the cuff so that England, sponsored by NatWest, could equally raise a total of around 300 against a good attack or be dismissed for half that against a mediocre one.

Table with columns for Country, Conditions, Runs to resort, Weather (Sprm), Last

Table with columns for Country, Conditions, Runs to resort, Weather (Sprm), Last

Table with columns for Country, Conditions, Runs to resort, Weather (Sprm), Last

Table with columns for Country, Conditions, Runs to resort, Weather (Sprm), Last

Table with columns for Country, Conditions, Runs to resort, Weather (Sprm), Last

Table with columns for Country, Conditions, Runs to resort, Weather (Sprm), Last

Woolworths Product Recall Notice. Hand Blown Wine Glasses set of three (£7.99 to £3.99). Reference Code: 350F0400 (Green) 350F0410 (Blue)



**SPORT IN BRIEF**

**Flick off to winning start in rally**

**MOTOR RALLYING:** The Paris-Dakar rally, starting in France for the first time in four years, drew big crowds for the first stage yesterday. Some 68,000 people watched the single 12-kilometre timed special section at La Chatre, which was won by Francois Flick, of France, on a Honda motorcycle in 9min 33sec.

About 10,000 people saw the competitors off from Versailles, outside Paris, the fifth time the rally has started at the chateau but the first since 1988. Bruno Saby, also of France and the race winner in 1993, was the fastest in a car in the timed section, with 9min 45sec. The first four places were all taken by Mitsubishi, including the title-holder, Kenjiro Shinozuka, of Japan, who was 16 seconds slower than Saby in second.

**Yates pipped**

**CYCLING:** Sean Yates, a former Tour de France time-trial winner and, at 37, the reigning British 50-mile champion, who claims he competes "just for fun", was beaten yesterday in the race to become the country's first victor of the year.

Yates started last man off in the Southborough and District tea-mile time-trial at Vethersden, Kent, and finished with a winning time of 22min 21sec. Some 40 minutes earlier, however, and more than 120 miles to the north, Tim Bailey of VC Deal, had recorded 22min 01sec to win the CC Breckland event in Norfolk.

**Leaders accused**

**BASKETBALL:** Steve Tucker, the Derby Stars coach who resigned this week, yesterday accused leading players and officials of ruining the sport in England. "I'm disgusted when we play other teams and they're playing five Americans," he said.

**RUGBY LEAGUE: MEANINGLESS MATCHES FAIL TO DO GAME ANY FAVOURS**

**Two Deans bring fine draw to an ugly end**

Leeds Rhinos ..... 22  
Castleford Tigers ..... 22

By Christopher Irvine

**IN UNSEASONAL** wind and driving rain for rugby league, which remains reluctant to give up on Christmas and New Year fixtures despite a shift to spring and summer, honours were evenly spread after a dogged fightback by Leeds Rhinos from 16-0 down in the Teley Challenge match at Headingley yesterday.

A worthy contest, in terms of entertainment, if devoid of meaning, was marred towards the end by a spat between two Deans, Sampson, the Castleford and Great Britain prop forward, and Lawford, the replacement Leeds hooker. The pair were

Results ..... 23

sent off, making it a sorry start to the new year for them.

Colin Morris, the referee, produced the red cards after Sampson, who had just been sent to the sin-bin for deliberate offside, reacted to Lawford's words of incitement with a haymaker.

Sampson's original offence was punished by Holroyd's second goal five minutes before the end, as Leeds forged 22-16 ahead. After a converted try by Richard Gay, his second of the match, to level the scores in the 79th minute, Holroyd missed a penalty kick from 35 metres in the fourth minute of added time.

This was the second game of the festive season for Leeds; they beat Halifax Blue Sox on Boxing Day in front of an 11,000 crowd. Another 9,000 through the turnstiles yesterday represented valuable income, yet rugby league is doing itself no favours by staging matches in the middle of what is now the off-season.

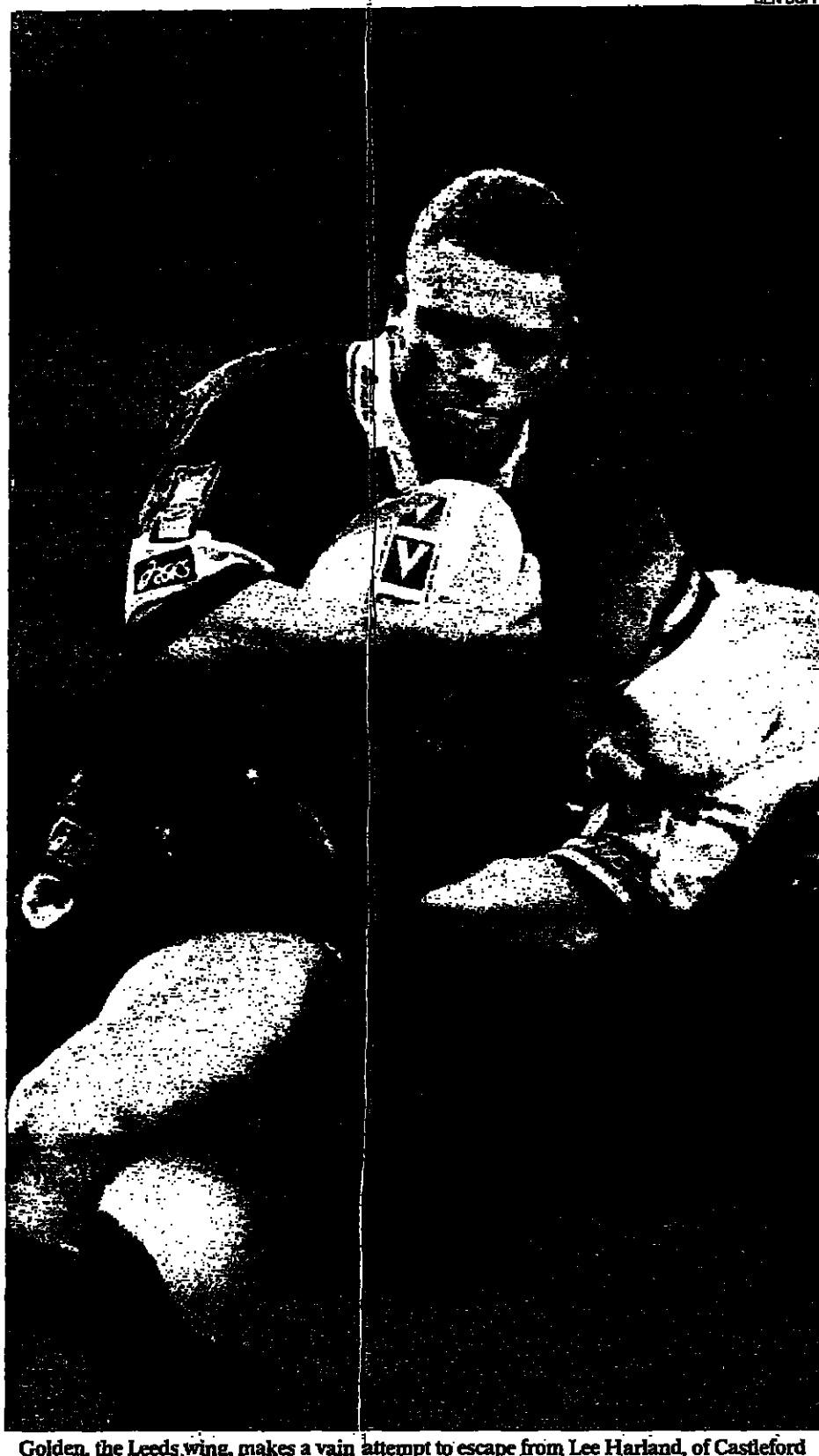
Some of the "challenge" encounters over the holidays — in reality, pre-season friendlies — have merely exposed the futility of staging matches outside the spring and summer months. Wigan's slaughter of what was virtually the St Helens second XIII on Boxing Day was preceded by calls from both coaches to scrap the fixture.

Neither side was at their sharpest yesterday — inevitably when players are in the middle of weights programmes designed to get them ready for the fourth round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup in six weeks and the Super League in April.

Leeds, at least, had played a game, whereas Castleford had not come together competitively since September, and, minus their influential Australian contingent, enthusiasm got them through an encouraging first half before the inevitable collapse. Two of Castleford's new signings, Barrie-Jon Mather and Francis Maloney, gave good accounts of themselves.

Leeds were nearer to full strength but looked thoroughly disjointed before the break as Gay raced over in the fourth minute and Orr found an embarrassing amount of room at the play-the-ball to free Maloney on his shoulder. When Mather sent in the hard-working Critchley and Maloney added his second conversion, the home side were staring at humiliation, until Farrell triggered the recovery with a try beneath the posts on half-time.

Graham Murray, the new Leeds coach, who is due to arrive from Australia next week, would hardly have been pleased by the first half. The recording of the second half will make better viewing for him, as Morley sucked in defenders with a typical surge and Holroyd's floated pass gave Hughes room to score at the left corner.



Golden, the Leeds wing, makes a vain attempt to escape from Lee Harland, of Castleford

Iestyn Harris, in his first match since the back injury that kept him out of Great Britain's series defeat by Australia in November, unleashed a magnificent last-ditch challenge to prevent an almost certain try by Critchley and, moments later, ingeniously worked the move for a try by

Sheridan after good support work by Hay.

Silly passes under pressure cost Castleford another try, this time by Golden. Holroyd missed with the conversion but his penalty after Sampson's offside offence looked to have secured the home side victory. They reckoned without a fine break by Dobson and Orr putting Gay in for Castleford's final try,

which Benn converted for a deserved share of the spoils.

**SCORES:** Leeds: Tries: Farrell, Hughes, Sheridan, Golden, Gosic, Holroyd (2), Harris. Castleford: Tries: Gay (2), Maloney, Critchley, Gosic, Maloney (2), Benn.

**LEEDS RHINOS:** 1. Hens: M. Golden, A. Hughes, F. Curran, L. Rickett, A. Kemp, R. Sheridan, M. Maselle, P. Carrigan, D. Preece, A. Hay, A. Farrell, A. Morley. Substitutes: G. Holroyd, D. Lawford, F. Hession, J. Field.

**CASTLEFORD TIGERS:** J. Flowers, R. Gay, J. Critchley, B. Mather, J. Wells, F. Maloney, M. Ford, D. Sampson, G. Dobson, N. Sykes, L. Harland, J. Torrie, S. Hargrave. Substitutes: D. Orr, J. Benn, P. Smith, S. Hill.

Referee: C. Morris (Huddersfield)

**Born-again Oldham stride out**

David Burke sees a club risen from extinction gain an unexpected victory

**E**ven the most ardent supporter could not have envisaged such an encouraging result — a 36-16 victory at Rochdale Hornets yesterday — as Oldham took their first tentative steps in their renaissance.

Perversely, the result was always going to be secondary for the band of loyal Oldham followers after the trials and tribulations of the year with a competitive fixture, never mind a victory, was a pipedream. The famous Oldham club, launched in 1876 and founder members of the rugby league alongside Rochdale 19 years later, had ceased to exist.

Oldham Bears were relegated from Superleague last year with the price of failure exacerbated by debts of £1.2 million. The Bears went into liquidation before Christopher Hamilton, a supporter, and three other local businessmen relaunched the club — in a manner to delight the traditionalists. Oldham have gone back to the future, wearing red-and-white hooped jerseys and preferring their old nickname, Roughyeds, to a more trendy suffix adopted from the nearest menagerie.

Yesterday, Oldham, who will compete in the second division next season, fielded an amalgam of cast-offs, loanees, trialists and 34-year-old Paul Rowan, who has been tempted out of retirement. Defeat appeared virtually inevitable.

The Oldham players, encouraged by many of the 3,097 crowd, responded with a display of commitment and skill, remarkable after only a few training sessions.

Oldham led 18-16 at half-time with tries from Ade Meade, Mike Prescott and the impressive Joe McNicholas — three players unable to break into the Bears team last season. Rochdale

included their six close-season signings, and could have no excuses for such a poor display.

Inspired by Neil Flanagan, the former Rochdale scrum half, and Craig Barker, Oldham surprisingly stepped up the momentum in the second half and added three tries without reply from Martin Maders, McNicholas and Ian Simfield, their new recruit from Salford Reds.

Brian Quinlan added six goals from six attempts to make it a miserable afternoon for Rochdale in front of a crowd that was double their biggest of last season. Rochdale's three tries came from Kevin Mannion, the effervescent Richard Pachniuk and Peter Fitzgerald.

Raddy Kirwan, the Oldham coach, said: "I am more pleased for our loyal spectators because they turned up in large numbers not knowing what to expect. I did not expect us to win so comprehensively. The side is packed with local players and our team spirit won the day."

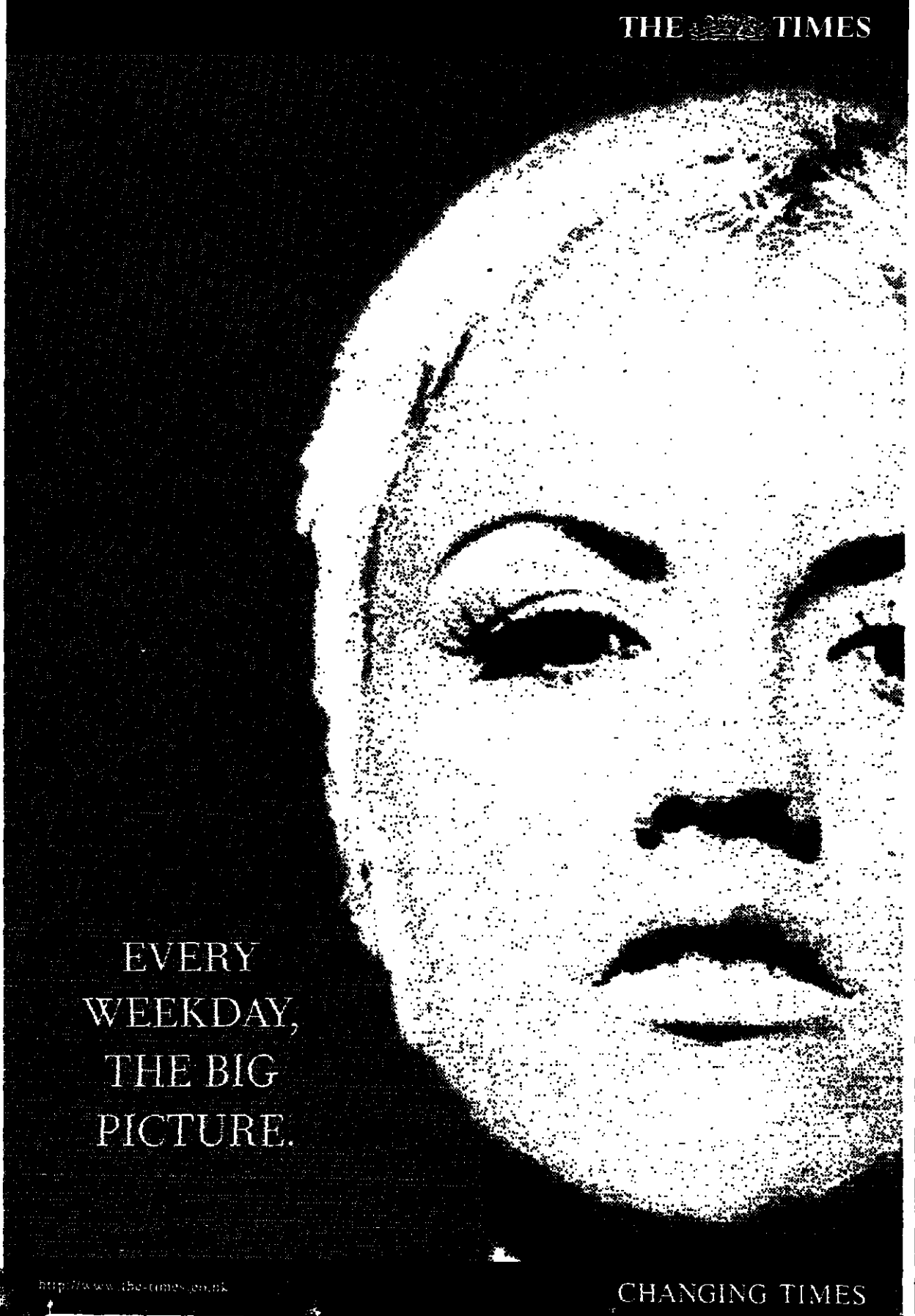
Hamilton, an accountant, said: "The victory was beyond our wildest dreams, but our supporters will have to be patient. Many rugby league clubs are time-bombs waiting to explode and we are determined to be prudent with our housekeeping and not go down the same route as the Bears."

"We will not be paying out any guaranteed money to players and the cash will have to be earned on the pitch."

Oldham are still hoping to be included in the draw, next Monday, for the third round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup, having been out of existence when details of the 1997-98 competition were finalised.

"We are hoping this result will improve our case," Hamilton said.

**'We will not be paying guaranteed money to the players'**



EVERY WEEKDAY, THE BIG PICTURE.

CHANGING TIMES

**SHEEHAN on BRIDGE**

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

In the refresher last week, I began looking at the subject of the jump shift — making a single jump in a new suit when your partner has opened with one of a suit. I pointed out that you should begin with a jump shift only when your hand is easy to describe. Either by rebidding your suit, rebidding in No-Trumps or by supporting your partner on the next round. The subject of the article this week is opener's bid after the initial jump shift. The general rule is that opener should make the same rebid, a level higher, that he would have made had partner responded a level lower. So, look at the following opening hands after the bidding has started One Heart - Two Spades:

- |                                  |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1) ♠76<br>♥AQ752<br>♦KJ54<br>♣K3 | 2) ♠K65<br>♥AJ552<br>♦Q6<br>♣AOS | 3) ♠A652<br>♥KQ762<br>♦K6<br>♣J2 |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
- Hands (1) and (3) are straightforward. With (1) you rebid Three Diamonds and (3) raise partner's spades.
- On Hand (2), assuming that you are playing a weak No-Trump, you would rebid One No-Trump over One Spade, showing 15-17 points (if you play a strong No-Trump, that is the best opening bid on the hand). You should rebid Two No-Trumps over Two Spades, again telling partner that you have a better than minimum balanced hand. This leaves him plenty of room to tell you why he has forced. If he rebids Three Hearts, you can show your spade support with Three Spades; if he rebids Three Spades, you can show your enthusiasm with a Four Club cue-bid; if he rebids Three No-Trumps, it is probably best to proceed with Four Spades, showing your support.
- Now consider the rebid when the initial response was at the three-level. The sequence starts One Spade - Three Diamonds:
- |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4) ♠AQ54<br>♥54<br>♦1065<br>♣AOS | 5) ♠AKJ1052<br>♥54<br>♦4<br>♣AQ72 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
- If you were playing a strong No-Trump, you would have opened one on Hand (4); playing a weak No-Trump, your Three No-Trump rebid shows 15-17 points.
- On (5), we do have a difference from the rebid over a simple response. If partner had responded Two Diamonds, you are just about worth Three Clubs. However, after his jump shift, partner will not have a second suit of clubs, so the important thing is to stress the strength of your spades: bid Three Spades. That is an important point — try to avoid rebidding poor suits in possible slam auctions, and take every opportunity you can to stress a good suit.
- The Macallan international bridge pairs championship 1998 will be played at The White House Hotel, Albany Street, London, NW1 from January 21 to 23. Tickets and information from The Macallan Box Office, 31 Queens Road, Mortlake, London, SW14 5PH (tel: 0181-878 5844).

**KEENE on CHESS**

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

**Sadler leads**

After three rounds of Britain's premier all-play-all tournament at Hastings, Matthew Sadler, the co-British champion, has powered into the lead with 2½ points out of a possible three. Luke McShane, after a poor start, made up for lost ground by a swift demolition of James Plaskett, the former British champion.

White: Vladislav Tkachiev  
Black: Matthew Sadler  
Hastings Premier  
December 1997

<b>Sicilian Defence</b>	1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 Bc4 Nd7 4 c3 Nb6 5 c3 g6 6 Ng5 e6 7 O-O h6 8 Nf3 Bg7 9 Bb3 O-O 10 Re1 e5 11 Nbd2 Kf7 12 Nf1 d5 13 Ng3 Be8 14 Bb3 Qe7 15 Bc4 16 cxd4 cxd4 17 Bb2 Nf7 18 Rc1 Rf8 19 Bb3 c6 20 Bc5 b5 21 Bc4 a5 22 Rf1 Ne5 23 Ne1 Qe7 24 Ne2 Nb4 25 Bb4 Bc4 26 Qd2 Nc4 27 Rxc4 Nc4 28 dxe4 Rxc4 29 b3 Rc3 30 Nd3 Rxd3 31 Qxd3 Rb2 32 g3 Qe6 33 Rc1 Qg6	<b>Sicilian Defence</b>	1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nc4 Nc6 5 Nb5 d6 6 Bf4 Be7 7 Bc3 Nf6 8 Nd2 Nf8 9 Bg5 d5 10 exd5 Bxd5 11 Bb6 Qe6 12 Bc4 Rb8 13 Qd4 Nc4 14 Nc4 Nc4 15 Nc6+ Bxc6 17 Nc6+ Qc6 18 Qc5 Rb8 19 Rc1 Rxc2 20 Rxc2 Nc2+ 21 Kc2 Nb4 22 Rc1 Nc6 23 Rc3 Black resigns
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Play in the Premier continues until January 7 after the rest day yesterday. The playing venue is the Cinque Ports Hotel, Hastings.

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

**WORD-WATCHING**

By Philip Howard

<b>AOUDAD</b> a. A sheep b. An Arab grandfather c. A type of succulent date	<b>CRISTA</b> a. A toboggan run b. A ridge c. An armour elbow-guard
<b>BOOKSY</b> a. Bookish b. A prefect at Harrow c. An ophthalmic disease	<b>GALPON</b> a. A barn b. A fish c. A scaling-ladder

Answers on page 38

**WINNING MOVE**

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Steinitz - Blackburne, played in London in 1876.

Can you spot White's powerful breakthrough on the kingside?

Solution on page 38











# Enter the league and win £10,000

## Register your team by tomorrow for the new ITF FA Cup league

A £10,000 prize is up for grabs for the winner of the brand-new FA Cup league. A league within the ITF, which begins tomorrow with the most romantic day in the football calendar – the third round in England and Wales.

Entrants to ITF will automatically score points in the FA Cup league when the players in their team compete in the FA/Tennents Cup rounds. English Premiership players will begin the knock-out tomorrow and January 24 as the start of the Tennents Cup round involving Scottish premier division teams.

This is your chance to choose a team specifically for the FA Cup league. All players start scoring when the cup rounds involving English and Scottish premier divisions begin. All teams will be allocated transfers to use at their own discretion.

Any team in the ITF before 12 noon on December 13 received 20 extra transfers in

addition to their present allocation. From now on, all new teams will receive 20 transfers for the duration of the season. Postal entries are no longer eligible but telephone entries must be received by 10am tomorrow in order to score points from the beginning of the FA Cup league competition, which is a crucial advantage. Entrants must be 18 years or over.

By competing in the FA Cup league, your players will automatically score points for matches played in the English and Scottish premier divisions during the 1997-98 football season as well and, if appropriate, in the mini leagues.

By scoring points in the ITF, your team will win the monthly prizes of £1,000, a signed Mitre football, a Mitre sports bag and a pair of tickets to a premier league match by scoring the most points in any one month. The mini league (students' and women's) also carry monthly prizes.



# THE ITF FA CUP LEAGUE

## £10,000 to the winner

### HOW TO PLAY

Study the Cup draw (the Scottish draw will be made in January) and the list of players. Select your team as follows:

You have £35 million to spend on a team of 11 players and a manager.

You must pick 1 goalkeeper, 2 full backs, 2 central defenders, 4 midfielders, 2 strikers and a manager. You must not pick more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

Your team must be made up of 12 individuals at any one time but you may transfer your players in and out of your team as you wish, according to your transfer allocation.

You may enter as many teams as you wish.

### HOW TO ENTER BY TELEPHONE

0891 405 0111  
(Republic of Ireland +44 990 100 308)

Once you have chosen your team, call the number on a touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones have a touch-tone) and follow the step-by-step instructions. You must speak the full set of selections (11 players and 1 manager) for each of your two teams. You must also speak your manager's name. You must also speak your name, your telephone number, your address, your daytime telephone number and your personal identification number.

You must have your transfer allocation ready when you call. A new team will be created for you. You will be able to see about your team's progress on the ITF website.

## To enter, call

# 0891 405 0111

(Republic of Ireland +44 990 100 308)

### PREMIERSHIP CLUBS IN FA CUP DRAW

Portsmouth v Aston Villa
Arsenal v Port Vale
Colchester City v Northampton Town
Leeds United v Oxford United
Everton v Newcastle United
Liverpool v Coventry City
West Ham United v Reading
Derby County v Southampton
Tottenham Hotspur v Blackburn Rovers
Crystal Palace v Southampton
Wolves v Sheffield Wednesday
Chelsea v Manchester United
Wimbledon v Wrexham
Blackburn Rovers v Wigan Athletic
Manchester City v Bolton Wanderers

Ties to be played on January 3, 4 and 5

**ITF Terms and conditions:** 1. You must enter through the media channel you wish to play by. 2. Entries must be made by the application deadline. 3. There is no refund of the £2 entry fee. 4. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 5. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 6. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 7. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 8. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 9. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 10. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 11. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 12. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 13. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 14. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 15. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 16. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 17. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 18. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 19. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data. 20. The ITF is not responsible for any loss of data or corruption of data.

### HOW TO ENTER YOUR TEAM

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL ENTRANTS

TEAM NAME	
Goalkeeper	
Full back	
Full back	
Central defender	
Central defender	
Midfielder	
Midfielder	
Midfielder	
Midfielder	
Striker	
Striker	
Manager	

First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Surname \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Tel \_\_\_\_\_  
Cheque / PO No. \_\_\_\_\_

This year ITF incorporates separate mini leagues. Please tick the correct league(s) for your entry.  
 Women's League     Student League

Entrants must be 18 or over to play in the ITF league, the Women's league and the Students' league.

Which age group are you? (TICK BOX)    18-24     25-34     35-44     45-54     55-64     65+

How often do you read The Sunday Times?    Less than once a month     1-2 times a month     3-4 times a month

How often do you read The Times?    Less than once a week     1-3 times a week     4-6 times a week

Do you have a PC at home?    Yes     No

If you do not wish to receive other offers from Times Newspapers, please tick box

Send your entry with £2 entry fee (entrants outside the UK or Rep of Ireland £10 sterling) to: The Times Interactive Team Football, Abacus House, Dudley Street, Linton, Bedfordshire LU1 1ZZ.

### GOALKEEPERS

Code	Name	Team	Price £m
10101	J. Lehmann	Aberdeen	2.00
10201	D. Seaman	Arsenal	3.00
10301	M. Bush	Aston Villa	3.00
10401	D. Wilson	Barnsley	1.00
10501	T. Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.50
10601	K. Smith	Bolton Wanderers	2.00
10701	S. Kerr	Cardiff	4.00
10801	J. Gordon	Chelsea	3.00
10901	E. De Gooij	Coventry City	1.50
11001	S. Ogrizovic	Crystal Palace	1.50
11101	K. Miller	Derby County	1.50
11201	M. Poon	Dunfermline	1.50
11301	S. Ogrizovic	Everton	2.00
11401	S. Ogrizovic	Leeds United	1.50
11501	G. Rothery	Liverpool	3.50
11601	C. Field	Manchester United	1.50
11701	G. Costello	Millwall	1.50
11801	L. Lovric	Millwall	1.50
11901	N. Merlyan	Newcastle United	3.50
12001	K. Keady	Northampton	1.50
12101	P. Schmeichel	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00
12201	S. Howard	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00
12301	S. Ogrizovic	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00
12401	S. Ogrizovic	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00
12501	S. Ogrizovic	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00
12601	S. Ogrizovic	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00
12701	S. Ogrizovic	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00
12801	S. Ogrizovic	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00
12901	S. Ogrizovic	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00
13001	S. Ogrizovic	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00

### CENTRAL DEFENDERS

Code	Name	Team	Price £m
20101	S. O'Neill	Aberdeen	2.00
20201	T. Adams	Bolton Wanderers	3.00
20301	M. Keown	Arsenal	3.00
20401	G. O'Connell	Arsenal	3.00
20501	G. O'Connell	Arsenal	3.00
20601	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
20701	A. De Zoort	Barnsley	1.00
20801	A. Moses	Blackburn Rovers	0.50
20901	R. Whelan	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
21001	C. Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
21101	S. Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
21201	S. Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
21301	S. Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
21401	S. Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
21501	S. Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
21601	S. Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
21701	S. Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
21801	S. Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
21901	S. Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
22001	S. Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00

### MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	Price £m
30101	E. Josa	Aberdeen	2.00
30201	B. Bernard	Aberdeen	2.00
30301	M. O'Connell	Arsenal	5.50
30401	S. Hughes	Arsenal	3.50
30501	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
30601	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
30701	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
30801	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
30901	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
31001	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
31101	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
31201	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
31301	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
31401	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
31501	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
31601	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
31701	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
31801	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
31901	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00
32001	R. Whelan	Aston Villa	3.00

### STRIKERS

Code	Name	Team	Price £m
40101	B. Dodds	Aberdeen	4.00
40201	I. Wright	Arsenal	7.50
40301	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
40401	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
40501	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
40601	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
40701	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
40801	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
40901	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
41001	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
41101	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
41201	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
41301	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
41401	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
41501	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
41601	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
41701	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
41801	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
41901	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50
42001	D. Barry	Arsenal	6.50

### MANAGERS

Code	Name	Team	Price £m
50101	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
50201	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
50301	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
50401	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
50501	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
50601	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
50701	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
50801	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
50901	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
51001	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
51101	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
51201	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
51301	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
51401	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
51501	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
51601	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
51701	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
51801	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
51901	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
52001	A. Miller	Aberdeen	1.50

سكول من الامم



ATHLETICS

Skah may yet run in Durham event

By Our Sports Staff

KHALID SKAH'S participation in the County Durham international cross-country meet tomorrow was in doubt yesterday after he was ordered home by the Moroccan Athletic Federation.

Skah, who is presently based in Paris, has been told by his national governing body that he must join up with his Moroccan team-mates at a training camp.

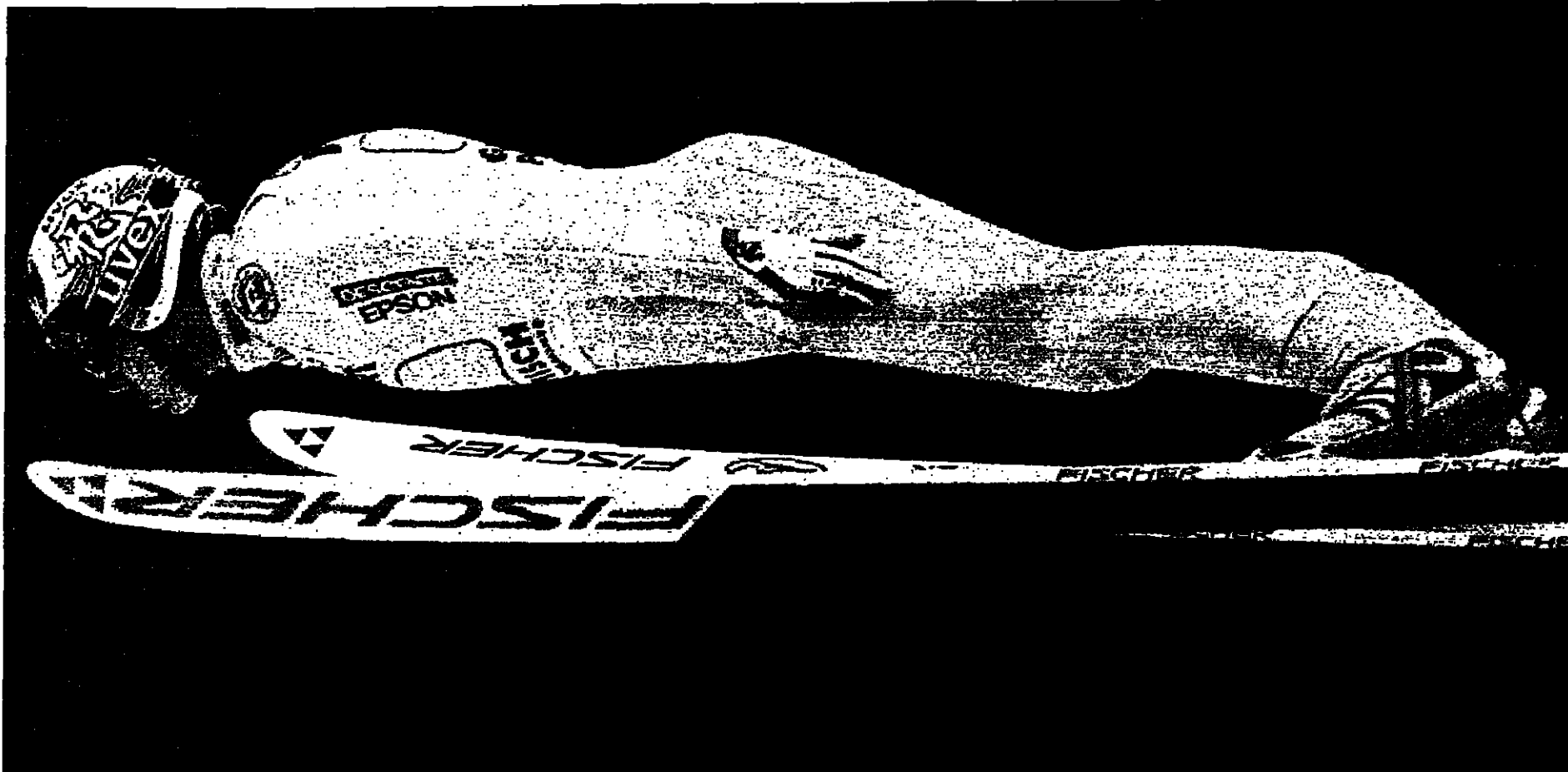
Morocco is hosting the world cross-country championships in March, and the Moroccans are keen to end the domination of the event established in recent years by Kenya.

Skah contacted the organisers of the Durham International to inform them of his predicament. He insisted to them that he is not prepared to accept the demands made on him and is asking his federation for an official reason why he must return home.

It is a difficult situation for Skah. Having won the individual world cross-country titles in 1990 and 1991, he would love to achieve a third victory on home soil.

However, as he pointed out to Nigel Gough, the race director, to achieve that aim it is only logical that he should be allowed to take part in IAAF world cross-country challenge events such as Durham.

Gough said: "The last I heard from Khalid is that he intends catching the flight from Paris to Newcastle this morning. He's extremely upset at what is going on and, as a senior international athlete and former Olympic 10,000 metres champion, he just cannot understand why he's being told that he cannot race in Durham or anywhere else."



High-flyer: Kazuyoshi Funaki led a clean sweep by Japan in the second leg of the Four Hills World Cup ski-jumping competition in Garmisch, Germany, yesterday. Results, page 23

HOCKEY: ENGLAND LOSE MIDFIELD PLAYER IN WORLD CUP AND COMMONWEALTH GAMES YEAR

Miller denies rift with coach led to retirement

By Cathy Harris

TAMMY MILLER has denied any suggestion that her decision to withdraw from the England team to tour Australia this month and retire from the international scene was due to differences with Maggie Souyave, the national coach.

Miller, 31, who was persuaded to return to bolster England's World Cup training party this season after stepping down after the Atlanta Olympics in 1996, said yesterday that she was unable to commit herself to England's rigorous World Cup and Commonwealth Games schedule for the next nine months.

"I couldn't give the necessary commitment," Miller, an actuarial assistant, said. "I was shocked to be left out of the original touring party and I spoke very openly to Souyave about it. But if there was to be any question mark over how I fitted in with her plans, it wasn't worth the

gamble of giving up my job. I really wasn't confident I featured in future plans.

Miller, the Clifton captain, has been capped more than 160 times for England and Great Britain. "I'm not bitter about it and I like Souyave," she said. "I've enjoyed ten really good years at the top and I'll definitely be going to Utrecht in May to watch England in the World Cup."

The loss of Miller's industry and craft in midfield will be keenly felt by the inexperienced, 18-strong squad where the emphasis is very definitely on youth. Souyave said yesterday that she may not replace Miller and hoped to speak to her in more detail about her reasons for withdrawing. "No places are guaranteed," Souyave said. "I have to take things like injury, form and fitness into consid-

eration. I respect her decision and that's the end of the story. Now we have to get on with the World Cup."

Carol Voss, the teenager, who has withdrawn from the Australia trip because of examinations, has been replaced by Sarah Blanks, her Leicester team-mate.

The England indoor team, which will defend their title in the European indoor championship in Spain at the end of this month will be announced next week.

Slough, runaway leaders in the premier division, begin the defence of their national indoor league title at Crystal Palace on Sunday. The newcomers, Doncaster, meet their northern rivals and former champions, Hightown, in their opening match. The top four clubs qualify for the play-offs at the same venue on the weekend of January 31 and February 1.

SOME of the best indoor talent in England, Scotland and Wales will be seen at the two-day DTZ men's indoor invitation tournament starting tomorrow at Periswell Leisure Centre, Worcester, and Wyre Forest Glades Arena, Kidderminster. The visit of a team from New York will add international flavour to the eleventh year of the competition.

Murray International Metals, from Edinburgh, the holders, hope to retain the trophy under the guidance of Andrew Stouler, their coach. They can expect strong opposition from St Albans, the English champions, East Grinstead, Doncaster, Harborne and Old Loughtonians, who have two Scots, Hector and Ralph, in their squad. In addition, Sutton, Lee and Morrison have all played for England.

St Albans, coached by Andy Bowskill, are quietly confident of

adding to their laurels. Swansea, the Welsh champions, will also challenge strongly.

The Midlands is well represented by Barford Tigers and Stourport, both well stocked with indoor specialists Capercallies represent further Scottish hopes while H'oll add weight to the challenge from northern England. Combined Services have entered for the first time.

The 16 teams are divided into four pools with the winners and runners-up of each moving on to the knockout series. The third and fourth-placed teams in each pool will take part in a plate competition.

A fair play award for teams has been introduced for the tournament this year in memory of Tim Henderson, an official, who suffered a fatal heart attack during the junior World Cup tournament at Milton Keynes last September.

SWIMMING

Director defends drug-test plans

By Our Sports Staff

COMPETITORS in the world championships, which start in Perth next week, will be subjected to the world's most comprehensive drug tests. Alan Melchert, the event's executive director, said yesterday:

"It will be far in advance of anything you've seen because of the level of testing," he said. "We have been assured by the Australian Sports Drug Agency [ASDA] that this is probably as good as it gets."

Melchert said that all winners and record-breakers would be tested for a wide range of substances. There would also be random testing of the 2,500 competitors before and after events.

Melchert's assurance about the thoroughness of the testing came after the Australian Olympic swimming coach, Forbes Carlie, said that extensive tests at the championships were likely to be a waste of money and could have the perverse effect of validating doping.

Carlie, a member of the World Swimming Coaches' Association, said that any drugs were likely to be masked at the championships or be out of swimmers' systems. Money earmarked for the drug-testing programme could have been better spent on earlier testing, he claimed.

However, an ASDA spokesman insisted testing on the eve of the event was useful in detecting drug cheats.

Chinese swimmers, who go into the world championships having recorded five of the ten fastest times of 1997 in six of the 13 individual Olympic events, have been the target of most accusations of drug taking.

AN EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION

THE TIMES

A chance to go the distance for Diana

Wanted: 20 people to run the marathon as fundraisers for the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund



The Times has secured 20 places for its readers to take part in the 1998 Flora London Marathon and help raise more than the target of £5 million for the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund.

The Times 20 will be part of Team Flora, in which all the runners will be fundraising for the Memorial Fund, one of the two official charities for the race next year. A special panel has been set up to select readers wanting to 'Run for Diana' over the historic distance through the streets of London on Sunday, April 26.

The Times will also publish the complete results of the race - from the international heroes and heroines at the front to the determined joggers at the back.

There has already been unprecedented interest in the 1998 event. A record 100,000 people applied to enter, including 20,000 who specifically responded to an



invitation to run for the Memorial Fund.

This year, it was televised in more than 100 countries and 600,000 people lined the London streets to cheer on the 29,135 competitors, who ran from Greenwich to the Mall, triumphantly finishing the course of 26 miles 385 yards.

The fund-raising for the

Memorial Fund will be poignant for many of the competitors next year because they will be running on the streets where the coffin of the Princess was carried at her funeral on September 6. It will also be 10 years since she was the official starter of the 1988 event.

Applications should not

come from people who have already been informed that they have been selected to take part in the 1998 race.

The names of the chosen 20 will be published in The Times on Monday, January 19 and the newspaper will then highlight some of the runners' stories and preparation in the build-up to the event itself.

THE TIMES DIANA TEAM COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Read the form below carefully: the judges will base their decision on what you reveal in this form. All the winners who take part in the marathon on April 26 will be asked to sign a pledge form relating to their commitment to raise funds for the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund and to remit such funds by May 31, 1998. Our

entry forms for the chance to win a place in the Diana Team should reach the following address by January 9, 1998: The Times Diana Team, Flora London Marathon, PO Box 5071, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 7FY. Judging will take place on January 14 and the winners will be informed by telephone by January 19.

Entry form fields including: Title, Surname, Address, Day tel, Eve tel, Age, Occupation, Men/Women, Do you suffer from any illness/es?, Have you been in hospital for an operation?, Have you, a relative or friend, ever met Princess Diana?, Have you, a relative or friend, any connection with any of the Diana, Princess of Wales, charities, or a special reason for wanting to be in the Diana team?, Describe your connection, Have you ever competed in a marathon before?, How much money did you raise?, For which organisation/s?, Have you raised funds for any organisation/s before?, Describe how much you raised and how you did it, Do you have any outstanding achievements of which you are proud? Tell us about them, What are your hobbies?, State, in not more than 50 words, why you deserve a place in this year's marathon.

Please send the completed entry form to: The Times/Diana Team, London Marathon, PO Box 5071, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 7FY



# EDUCATION

## Mr Blunkett, please take note

**John O'Leary**  
on the call for a  
pan-European  
spending initiative

British governments treat education more generously than most of their counterparts on the Continent, but they are no more successful at ensuring that the money goes to the places that need it most. That is the conclusion of a report published today, which is intended as the catalyst for a pan-European initiative by teachers.

The report by accountants at Coopers & Lybrand examines education funding in 21 European countries, although the data is sketchy for some outside the European Union. Commissioned by the biggest teaching unions in England and Scotland, the study will be used to back demands for international guidelines on the way public funds are allocated.

British teachers have long argued that, regardless of the amount devoted to education, money could be targeted far more effectively. There are wide disparities between different local authorities and different phases of education. Coopers & Lybrand's findings are inevitably dated, since the most recent figures available when the report was compiled were for 1993. But spending over an eight-year period shows that the pattern is repeated on an international scale. Not only does the budget for education vary enormously between countries, but so does the way in which it is divided up.

Expressed as a single per pupil figure for the whole of education, Switzerland spends four times more than Greece and almost eight times more than Turkey. The United Kingdom is about midway in the table. But bald comparisons of public spending can be deceptive — for example, Ireland's high spending in the tables, right, reflects the youth of its population as well as its priorities. On most measures, the United Kingdom is among the big spenders on schools and education generally. Only on pre-school education does it come out badly, and



Ready for school in France, which has set up education priority zones, to take account of socio-economic conditions

that has been reversed since the figures were compiled.

In most of Europe, including Britain, spending on education rose in real terms between 1985 and 1993. The trend has continued since then, according to the report. Yet the percentage of national wealth devoted to education has declined in the early years of this decade.

There may be any number of explanations for this phenomenon, including in Britain a decline in the school-age population. But the report's authors note that spending on education tends not to keep pace with growth in times of national plenty, but is spared the harshest treatment in recession.

The other noticeable trend is for more of the education budget to go on vocational training and tertiary courses, at the expense of schools. As in Britain, most of Europe has experienced an explosion in demand for expensive further and higher education courses.

With British controversy over the division of funds between primary and secondary education also mirrored elsewhere in Europe, the demands of post-school provi-

sion are an added complication. The division of education budgets has become more sophisticated during the current decade, with a number of countries devolving decisions to lower levels of government or, in the UK's case, to schools themselves. But the authors conclude that this has not

brought the degree of equity and fairness they might have expected in the distribution of resources. Throughout Europe, equality of opportunity has remained elusive.

Some countries, such as France, with its education priority zones, have attempted to take account of socio-economic conditions. Others,

such as Finland, take particular account of special educational needs. But the report finds that all such systems are vulnerable to changing political priorities.

The authors say: "There is considerable, near universal, dissatisfaction over the way funding methodologies fail to reflect differences in pupil need. Given the essentially common nature of the problem even in different countries, there may be real scope here for a pan-European initiative."

As President of the European Trade Union Committee on Education and General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers, Doug McAvooy is well placed to start the ball rolling. He knows that ministers will be reluctant to do anything that smacks of surrendering national powers, but he is optimistic that Britain's presidency of the EU will offer an opportunity to address the issues highlighted in the report. He has already sent a copy to David Blunkett.

© European Comparisons in Education Funding is available from NUT, Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BD.

Spending as a percentage of total public spending				
	1985	1990	1993	1993, schools only
<b>European Union countries</b>				
Austria	11	10.6	10.2	6.7
Belgium	10.3	9.5	10.0	6.5
Denmark	11.8	10.6	13.0	7.9
Finland	12.9	12.9	12.8	7.8
France	n/a	10.3	10.4	7.4
Germany	9.8	n/a	9.5	6.2
Greece	n/a	n/a	n/a	6.4
Ireland	n/a	12.2	13.1	8.8
Italy	9.1	9.8	8.9	6.2
Holland	10.2	9.9	9.2	6.7
Spain	8.6	10.1	11.6	6.5
Sweden	n/a	9.3	10.8	6.9
UK	11.1	11.9	11.5	8.7
<b>Countries outside the European Union</b>				
Czech Rep.	n/a	n/a	n/a	8.8
Hungary	n/a	n/a	n/a	11.8
Iceland	n/a	n/a	n/a	6.9
Norway	13.2	13.9	15.0	11.9
Switzerland	15.0	15.4	16.1	11.9

Source: OECD Education at a Glance (1998)

## Business class pays dividends

Iola Smith on how workers in Wales are helping their local schoolchildren

THE sight of parents in the classroom helping children to learn to read is common in Britain's primary schools. But in Wales, business people will be joining them when term starts.

Business in the Community, an organisation with a proud record in education, thinks its members could play a key role in improving primary pupils' reading, speaking and spelling. Backed by companies such as Associated British Ports and British Telecom, the organisation has devised its Enhanced Literacy Project, to begin next term in selected primaries in the South Wales.

Among the first to benefit will be St Mary's Church in Wales School and St Cuthbert's Roman Catholic primary, both of which are in Cardiff Bay and serve a multi-ethnic and multilingual community.

Julie Bowman, St Mary's head teacher, says: "Sixty per cent of our pupils are Muslims whose first language is not English. The adult helpers will encourage them to communicate in English by listening to them read and discussing the story."

St Mary's business partners include managers from the Bank of Wales and doctors and nurses from Llandough Hospital.

St Cuthbert's is joining forces with the Welsh Health Common Services Authority, (Whicsa), a health service quango, which will send two people to the school for an hour a day. Lydia Bateman, a Whicsa manager and a St Cuthbert's volunteer, says: "We are based in the bay and this is an opportunity for us to get involved with the local community. We will be working

with six to seven-year-olds, introducing a story and then listening to them reading in small groups. We'll ask them questions about what happened in the story and look at basic grammatical forms and spellings that emerge."

All the volunteers are being trained to work in the classroom by both the participating schools and Business in the Community. The companies are providing new reading books and are being encouraged to improve the school premises.

The Bank of Wales, for example, refurbished St Mary's school, painted murals in the playground and improved the pupils' garden.

"As the adult helpers will be supporting the same children each day, they'll see them progress," says St Cuthbert's head teacher, Tim Cross. The school is also closely linked with Sedgwick Insur-

**'We want to extend children's links with commerce'**

ance. A manager from the company sits on the school's governing body and is helping Mr Cross to develop his management skills. Mr Cross says: "It's useful to get management assistance to help with issues such as budget planning."

Both St Mary's and St Cuthbert's feed Fitzalan High School, Cardiff, where BT is running a business in the Community mentoring project for pupils. The intention, therefore, is to extend children's links with the business community throughout their school careers.

After the pilot primary projects next term, Business in the Community hopes that the literacy initiative can be extended nationwide — provided, of course, that enough businesses will become involved with their local primary schools.

Director defends drug-test plans

Thousands of students attended a recruitment fair in north London, but fewer than 20 went to a teacher-training seminar

## 'Low image and pay, hopeless children — it's not for us'

Video screens flickered inside the Teacher Training Agency's silver exhibition stand, displaying fast-moving images of life in school and the capital. At London's Graduate Recruitment Fair last month, real-life teachers were also on hand to entice students back to the classroom. In some cases, they were preaching to the converted, but many graduates appeared sceptical of the glossy approach. Only 16 of the 6,500 visitors to the fair attended the agency's seminar on teaching as a profession.

### Philip Neville finds disturbingly little interest in teaching courses

years wanted to be a teacher. "You are moulding people," he said. "I know that the pay is pretty poor, but if you really want to do teaching for what it really is, you have to accept that."

### and the salary is pathetic.

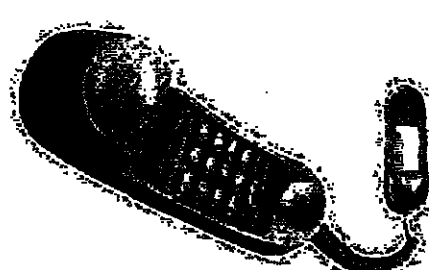
For those seriously considering teacher training, the funding situation remained a drawback. Jon Woolfson, 24, graduated in Economics and Politics at Leeds University. He was pleased to discover that the Government's new £1,000 course fees will not apply for the one-year Post-Graduate Certificate of Education courses. But it still meant "another year of commitment on a tight budget," he said. "That makes me wary."

More and more work, and a pathetic salary

## EDUCATION

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North Anglia provides lecturers to Colleges of Further Education on an agency basis. The unit is now in its third year of operation and it supplies staff to a significant number of colleges geographically dispersed throughout England. There is a data base of lecturers willing to accept placements.

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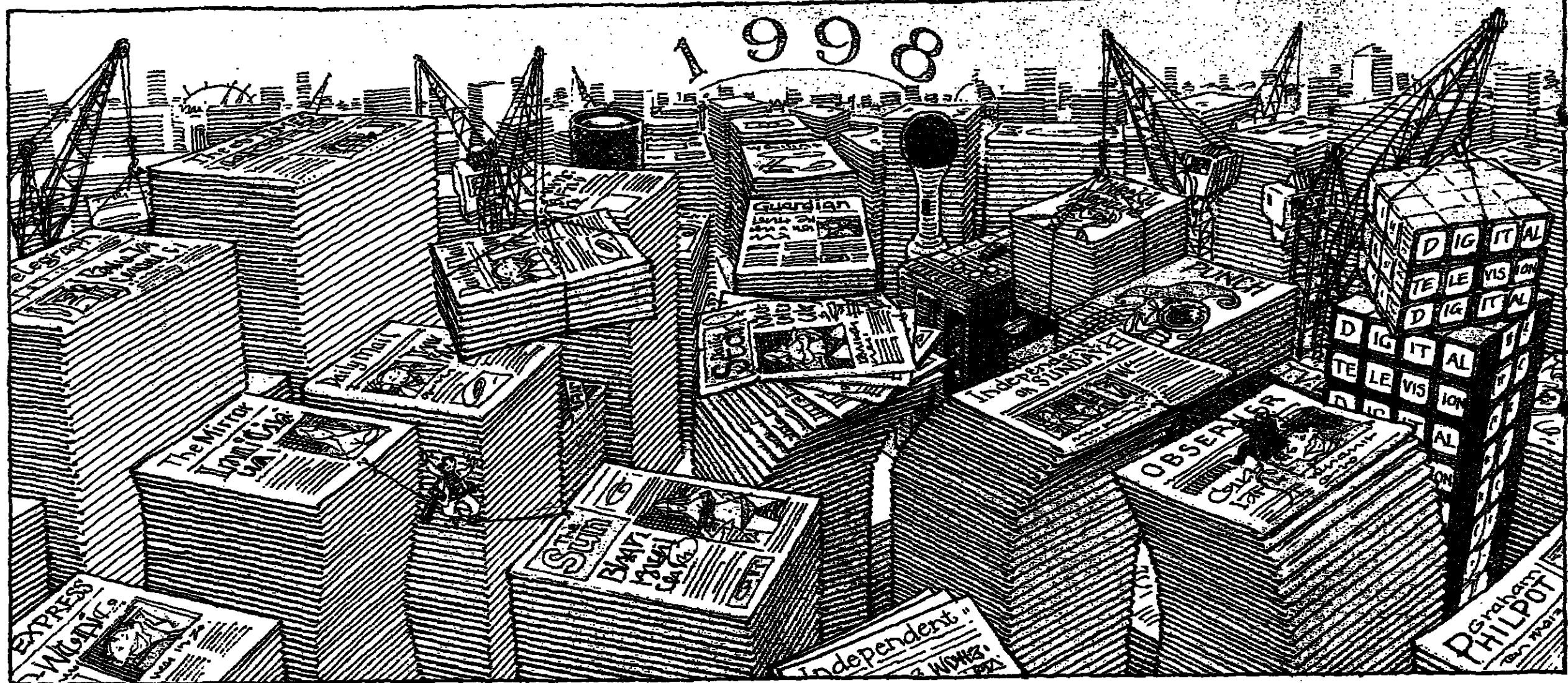
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# Winners and losers in 1998

GRAHAM PHURD



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Out into m

## Political scandals, press mergers, growing disaffection with new Labour and the rediscovery of the virtues of the Conservative Party — pundits make their predictions for the year

**Eve Pollard, former Editor of the then Sunday Express:** I hated the Louise Woodward story. TV may have been more to blame than newspapers, but the celebrating in Elton on the night her reduced sentence was announced was unpleasant. Newspapers were as sexist as ever, both in their treatment of women as subjects and in employing them. Nicola Horlick was treated badly, as was Paula Yates. This year should see more magazines aimed at women over 30.

**I presume papers are going to carry on writing endlessly about health.** We will end up with the *Daily Mail* or someone writing a piece "Find out if you've got cancer" or sticking a thermometer on one of its supplements.

The press will get increasingly irritated by Labour's tight control on media and information. This might lead to more investigations such as the one into Geoffrey Robinson.

One man who has already had lots of column inches can expect many more: Mohamed Al Fayed.

**James Steen, Editor of Punch:** Diana's death removed a certain amount of cynicism from the press. You used to be able to pick on people for no particular reason, but not any more. This is good news for proper investigative journalism. *Punch*, for example, will be more investigative.

Peter Mandelson's relationship with Tony Blair is not going to last. He has served his purpose now. If he needs a job, *Punch* will employ him.

There will be a lot more Geoffrey Robinson-type scandals. The future for weekly magazines over monthlies is very good, largely because production methods are so much better and cheaper.

**John Slattery, Editor Press Gazette:** The most significant events for the press were the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, and the arrival of new Labour

in government. The former brought more pressure for privacy laws and we now have the strengthened code from the Press Complaints Commission.

It has been fascinating to see how the Tory papers have changed their tack after the election. Everything is less predictable with regard to political coverage. We now have Tony Blair writing in the *Daily Mail* and *The Sun*.

In 1998, we will see more consolidation of the titles; fewer groups. There will be a real squeeze on the red-top Sunday tabloid market, particularly *The People* and the *Sunday Mirror*. And if the *Daily Mail* overtakes *The Mirror* in circulation, it will change the whole make-up of the market. The middle market will have become the mass market.

**Andrew Neil, Editor-in-Chief, The Scotsman:** I expect 1998 will see the beginning of a

harsh rationalisation of the newspaper industry.

For several years it has been kept buoyant by high advertising revenues and large marketing budgets, but when the predicted slowing of the economy kicks in, then these revenues will fall away.

It will become impossible to sustain the present market, driven by price-cutting and expensive offers. The weaker newspaper groups will obviously be hit hardest — *The Independent*, *The Express* (despite the good job done by Richard Addis) and *Daily Star*, now selling only 600,000 a day, will all be struggling to survive. Some will close, others will be taken over by people who think they can do a better job. Even strong papers such as *The Daily Telegraph* will suffer. *The Observer* and the *Independent on Sunday* will ultimately have to merge.

I imagine we will see a

continuing growth in the magazine market — *The European* crossed over to magazine format last year. A few years ago we had only soft porn and women's magazines, now young British readers are more likely to read a magazine than a newspaper.

But the British newspaper industry is still the most complex, competitive and dynamic in the world. It may be in for change, but it is not in decline.

**Richard Stott, former Editor Today, Daily Mirror:** The Diana story was handled extremely well, with lots of good writing, good pictures, everything that is best about the British press. The way the Geoffrey Robinson story was pursued was quite right, though the *New Statesman's* coverage was the least impressive. Newspapers didn't cover

themselves in glory in the way they handled the privacy issues after the death of Diana. They ran scared too quickly instead of fighting their corner, and they may live to regret that.

You had the ridiculous situation of the BBC *Panorama* programme meaning about the paparazzi and illustrating their case with lots of paparazzi photographs. *The Sunday Times* also did stories about the awful paparazzi using their pictures. Far too many knickers got into far too many twists over this.

Into 1998, the two grand old papers, *The Mirror* and *The Express*, are facing serious problems. The first real cataclysmic sign for them will be when the *Daily Mail's* circulation overtakes *The Mirror's*, which should happen in the next two or three months.

As for digital television, like most people, I think I will pick six or seven channels and the

remaining 193 will never get watched.

**John Humphrys, presenter Radio 4's Today programme:** We will doubtless find that those newspapers that converted to the cause of Labour this year will find a rising number of reasons to question their move and throw a few more stones in the general direction of No 10.

They might even rediscover one or two virtues in the Conservative Party, even if only on the basis that there is no harm in hedging your bets.

I predict that Messrs Mandelson and Campbell will fall out with every other journalist of any renown in the first six months of this year, and the rest in the second half.

The digital age is almost upon us and we will be on the point of finding out if we are to end up like America, with 500 channels but nothing to watch on any of them.

I hope that the good taste of the British public and the limitless wisdom of my own bosses will ensure this doesn't happen.

## Paper roses and wooden spoons

**Journalism's Oscars:** the annual British Press Awards, will not be announced until March. Meanwhile, Paper Round, still reeling from the new year celebrations, makes its own, often lighthearted, awards for 1997 (which, for obvious reasons, mainly exclude *The Times*).

**Most prolific writer:** Paul Johnson, who often thunders at least twice a week in the *Daily Mail*, contributes a weekly column in *The Spectator*, and who was also spotted last year in *The Times*, *The Daily Telegraph* and *The New York Times*. Runner-up: Matthew Parris (*Times*, *Spectator*, *Sun*).

**Most prolific freelance:** Tony Blair — or should it be Alastair Blair (as in Campbell) or Tim Blair (as in Allen). Articles with Mr Blair's byline appeared in national newspapers on at least eight occasions in the last three weeks of December — in *The Sun* (twice), *The Mirror* (twice), *The Times*, *The Daily Mail*, *The Independent* and *The Express*.

**Salary of the year:** On transferring from the *Daily Mail* to the *Sun* and Sky Television, Richard Littlejohn is being paid a reputed £800,000 a year. There has been no denial yet.

**Most improved newspaper:** *The Independent* on Sunday under campaigning editor Rosie Boycott.

**Most significant political conversion:** *The Sun's* switch to Labour.

**Most hated figures:** Paparazzi. They weren't driving the car but Earl Spencer said justly that they hunted Diana, Princess of Wales, to her death. She was in Paris only to avoid their cameras.

**Biggest lucky break:** Owen Bowcott of *The Guardian*, when he persuaded the Swiss receivers to let him inspect

the records which showed that Lolita Aitken had been in Switzerland and not at the Paris Ritz with her husband Jonathan Aitken in September 1993 — and which led to the collapse of Aitken's libel case against *The Guardian* and his political downfall. But luck doesn't just happen.

**Scops:** Andrew Morton, *Diana: Her True Story* was based not on information from "friends" but on taped interviews.

**Tabloid: News of the World** on Bradshaw.

**Broadsheet:** *The Guardian* for Jonathan Aitken and Neil Hamilton.

**Royal reporter:** Richard Kay of the *Daily Mail*, who was called by Diana, Princess of Wales, only six hours before her death and whose revelations about her were always soundly sourced.

**Most worried reporter:** Richard Kay.

**Royal article of the year:** Rosa Monckton (wife of Editor Dominic Lawson) in the *Sunday Telegraph* on her summer holiday with Diana. Syndication has so far raised £45,000 for the Heart of Kent Hospice in Maidstone.

**Phrase of the year:** "Dumbing down", meaning that the broadsheets were hastening downmarket to catch new readers. Confirmation: space devoted to the Spice Girls, Oasis, Versace, Elton John et al in *The Independent*, *The Guardian* and *The Times*. Necessary context: more space is devoted to political opinion, serious columnists, op-ed articles, letters, obituaries, books and the arts in all four papers than ever before.

**Oldie of the year (for there's life in the old dogs yet):** W.F. Deedes of the *Daily Telegraph*, especially for his reporting of Diana, Princess of Wales's landmine campaign and her funeral. Runner-up: the splendidly grumpy Richard Ingrams (editor of *The Oldie*) in *The Observer*.

**Nigel Dempster Award for best new gossip column:** Ephraim Hardcastle in the *Daily Mail* — short, sharp, feline, and often breaks news.

**Biggest con of the year:** *The Mirror*, for adjusting a picture of Diana, Princess of Wales, and Dodi Fayed by computer so that it looked as if they were kissing.

**Best innovation:** The weekly Open Door column by Ian Mayes, readers' editor of *The Guardian*. Mayes deals with corrections and clarifications and, every Saturday, with the concerns of readers about aspects of their newspaper. Runner-up: Andrew Marr's Letter from the Editor in *The Independent*. Treating readers as equals is an innovation that should be used by other editors.

**Politician who most needs tender, loving care:** The Lord Chancellor, as he responds to the European Convention on Human Rights with its direct threat to the freedom of the press.

**Most pretentious use of English:** The red, earthy, laterite soil was kicked up as Andrew, Beatrice and Eugene headed off into the distant Tuscan hills... The Duchess of York, in *The Spectator*.

**"Any of a group of deposits consisting of residual insoluble deposits of ferric and aluminium oxides — Collins.**

**Most condescending byline:** McCrum on... in *The Observer Review*. Literary editor Robert McCrum is always worth reading — but come on, Jocelyn.

**Is this really why we entered journalism award:** Tara Palmer-Tomkinson's Social Diary and Winner's Dinners in *The Sunday Times*.

**Best new comic talent:** Peter Bradshaw, for the spoof Alan Clark diaries in London's *Evening Standard*.

**Nascent media mogul:** Andrew Neil, soon to relaunch *The European* and *Sunday Business* for the Barclay brothers and overseeing rising sales at *The Scotsman* and *Scotland on Sunday*. Memo to *The Independent*: watch your backs.

**Best new book on journalism:** *A Hack's Progress*, by Philip Knightley (Cape, £17.99).

**Best debut:** Lauren Booth, Cherie's half-sister, in *The Spectator*.

**Fix of the year:** The reporter who allegedly supplied the villagers of Elton with champagne when Louise Woodward was released from jail and enabled a distorted image of Britain to go round the world.

**Apology of the year:** Max Hastings, Editor of the *Evening Standard*, for publishing an article in a "moment of human error" which led to the abandonment of a trial of five IRA prisoners and an armed robber.

**Correction of the year:** *The Sun*. "W. Ankers, An Apolo-

gy: Mrs Jean Ankers has asked us to point out that "only a pervert" would find her husband's name the Worst Name in the World as our headline on October 21 stated.

"She has asked us to apologise to her family, including Mr D. Ankers, brother, Mr A. Ankers, brother, Mr T. Ankers, brother, Mr J. Massey, sister, Mrs A. Dutton, sister, Mrs M. Ankers, sister-in-law, Mrs S. Ankers, sister-in-law. *The Sun* is sorry for any embarrassment caused to all the Ankers."

**Most thought-provoking comments:** "Spin means organised lying and the key word in that phrase is organised. All politicians in a democracy are obliged to lie but spinners lie systematically." Bryan Appleyard in *The Sunday Times*.

"Perhaps they aren't any good" — Jeremy Deedes, managing director of *The Daily Telegraph*, when asked by *Media Week* why sales of the tabloids were slumping.

**Euphemism of the year:** Academy of Excellence at *The Mirror*. Nice idea but doesn't it really mean that subs (if there are any left) have to size up the pictures?

**Spat of the year:** Charles Moore, Editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, with Sir David English, chairman of the code of conduct committee of the Press Complaints Commission, and Paul Dacre, Editor of the *Daily Mail*, over tabloid reporting of the royals.

Verdict: a draw. Dacre showed how the Princess convined with editors. Moore certainly got under the skin of the *Mail*.

**Sacking of the year:** Will Self, by *The Observer*.

**Hiring of the year:** Will Self, by *The Times*.

## It's a mag, mag, mag, mag world

**W**hen Nicholas Colebridge, managing director of Condé Nast, described magazines as "simply the hottest medium" at the 1997 Periodical Publishers Association (PPA) conference in May, few could have accused him of overstatement. This was the year that *FHM's* circulation jumped by 178 per cent to half a million, and sales of teen mags soared.

Magazines served as inspiration for countless newspaper features and sparked the year's staple dinner party conversations. It was the year the figures confirmed what observers already knew — the British had gone mad for magazines. In the first six months of 1997, we were treated to 344 new launches, and before the year was up we had spent £1.7 billion on a mind-boggling range of 2,300 home-grown news-stand titles — 400 more than Germany, 400 fewer than the US — plus 1,200 imports.

With IPC's *Uncut* barely six months old, there is news of yet another men's title slated for the near future (this time from Wagadon), claiming an emphasis on music and film as its point of difference. And this month, hot on the heels of Wagadon's summer launch, *Frank*, comes Emap Elan's women's monthly, *Red*, complete with promises to "shake up the women's market" and to be "the biggest launch since *Marie Claire*".

Clearly nobody is too concerned about overcrowding. "There's always room for a good new idea," says Ian Birch, Editor-in-Chief of Emap Elan.

His optimism is understandable. Circulation is at an all-time high, paper prices are low and freely flowing advertising revenue is fuelling the market's growth. Today's affluent consumers like to vary their selection and buy more magazines.

**Paul Staheli wonders just how many more titles the market can take**



Today's hottest medium

The seemingly endless expansion of portfolios does raise questions, not least how long the market can go on accommodating yet more of what it already offers many times over.

"People have been saying since the beginning of the 1990s that the rate of launches can't continue, but it has done," says Jim Bilton, media consultant and adviser to the PPA. "The general dynamics of the magazine market are geared towards launches regenerating the whole business. The profile a launch has in terms of grabbing the consumer's and the advertiser's attention means you get a lot for your money."

If proof were needed, he adds, look at *Frank* — the first issue shifted 140,000 copies, while subsequent issues are expected to settle to 100,000. Lindsay Nicholson, editor of *Prima* and chairwoman of the

British Society of Magazine Editors, broadly agrees that launches keep the industry alive. "You get a trickle-down effect. When someone comes along and does something fresh, everyone has a hard look at what they're doing and it moves the genre as a whole."

But as new titles keep cropping up, credible points of difference from the selection already on offer become harder to find. A visit to the newsagent confirms the widespread repetition of ideas as an inevitable consequence of a saturated market. Condé Nast's *GQ*, once easily distinguishable in the men's sector, addressed its falling circulation figures by making *Loaded's* Editor, James Brown, only to have the first issue's descent into formulaic laddism dismissed in the trade press as "all a bit sad". By its third month, *Frank* had also suffered criticism in the press, claiming its lingerie issue already smacked of the mainstream. From the women's magazines' tired treatment of the theme of sex highlighted in November's Social Affairs Unit report to the high incidence of covers featuring the same celebrity, the increased number of titles on the shelves does not appear to have enriched the choice of subject matter available.

Only time will tell how long readers will continue to be come excited by more of the same in a different wrapper, and how long the market will continue to enjoy such good health. And even allowing for a death rate of two out of every three new launches, 3,500 regular news-stand titles is an awful lot of paper.

"There's another big issue brewing — the retailer's ability to display a lot of these titles," says Mr Bilton. "And there must be a question as to how much time people can spend reading magazines."

Is this for News



1998

# Out of Africa into global markets

## Janice Hughes, aid worker-turned-TV guru, talks to Raymond Snoddy

In her twenties, Janice Hughes was listed on the files of BOSS, the South African security police, for picking up prisoners on the run from the apartheid regime and driving them to Lesotho, where she worked as a development economist, running a women's rug-making co-operative.

She was almost certainly also on the files of the CIA because of her position as an economic adviser to Havana Bank of Cuba at the height of the Cold War, when the bank had close ties to Moscow.

Later, she worked for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Zaire, Congo and Sudan, dealing with Ethiopian refugees during the time of the 1984-85 famine.

Now it is a universe away from Hughes, who is in her forties. As co-founder of Spectrum Strategy, the international consultancy specialising in the media and communications, she is a multi-millionaire, dresses in serious black business suits and operates with her partner, Kip Meek, from an elegant house in a row of near Hyde Park Corner, in Central London.

She is a member of the Government's Inter-Departmental Task Force on the Creative Industries designed to boost the UK's performance in one of the world's fastest-growing industries.

Cambridge-educated Hughes laughs uproariously at the memory of an article on the Task Force written by the acerbic arts critic Brian Sewell. Bemoaning the fact that there were no men or women of the arts on the committee, Sewell added, even more snidely, it also included "something called Spectrum Strategy".

The *Evening Standard* may not have heard of Spectrum, but increasingly the largest players in the global communications industry have.

Hughes is now advising the world's largest television company, Globo of Brazil, on its telecommunications strategy for the next ten years. Spectrum has also been working on a bid submitted (against stiff opposition) earlier this week by BT and three local groups for an advanced telephone network for Singapore, complete with multi-

media services. Carrying out research in Singapore for the bid, Hughes was amazed by the way the Internet was unleashing creativity in its schools.

Here in the UK, Spectrum is now finalising its third annual survey, for the Department of Trade and Industry, of how British businesses rate internationally in their use of the Internet. Everyone, Hughes believes, is about five years behind the US, but the UK is probably second among the major economies, with Japan making great strides to catch up and the French lagging a long way behind.

The deregulation of telecommunications and an open culture have been a great asset for the UK, as has the appearance of a range of high technology computer companies in Britain, "although it hasn't quite come together and there is still a gap with respect to venture capital", Hughes says.

Her first encounter with the media world was not happy. At the height of the Ethiopian refugee problem she came to London to try to interest *Panorama* in a documentary on the suffering in the camps, the corruption surrounding food aid and, she claims, children being shipped off to slavery in Saudi Arabia. To no avail.

"Thank goodness Bob Geldof came. That's what it takes — someone famous," she says. It was that experience, combined with a failure to get her complaints taken seriously by the UN, that brought her back to London and unemployment, feeling "wring-out and powerless".

After answering an advertisement, she became managing director of the Economist Advisory Group where she met Bryan Carsberg, the future Director-General of Ofcom, the telecommunications regulatory body. He advised her to specialise in televisions and media.

Later, at international consultants Boot Allen, she advised Carlton in its bid against Thames Television for the London weekday ITV licence and helped ITV to defend its licence. At consultants Coopers & Lybrand, Meek was handling seven bids and



Janice Hughes, co-founder of Spectrum Strategy, still has African development close to her heart

lost only one — Thames Television. They came together to found Spectrum, almost effortlessly, over lunch at the Edinburgh Television Festival in 1993. Hughes's husband Stephen Taylor, a television producer, knew both and said they would get on.

Spectrum has grown from a staff of 11 to 45 in four years and in that time only four people have left. It is the sort of place where one of the staff was recently given a six-month sabbatical to teach in a school for the blind in Tanzania.

Surveying the media scene in the UK at the turn of the year Hughes has worries about the rash of digital television projects due to launch this year. Digital satellite, which plans to offer 200 channels, could have a problem, she reckons. Consumer uptake of digital television has been poor worldwide. She says: "A lot of

customers may say: 'I've got my satellite dish. I don't want any more of that. I'm quite happy with the movies and the Premier League'."

She is also concerned about digital terrestrial television, which plans to launch 30 new channels this year. "Underlying consumer behaviour is untried and untested. We don't know whether consumers will buy digital terrestrial or not," says Hughes.

Cable, she forecasts, will become an increasing problem for BT. The cable industry now has more than three million telephone lines installed. If that were to double to six million, BT would "really hurt".

But she believes that ITV is still in a hugely powerful position as the television audience continues to fragment amid a plethora of channels. Its main challenge will come from Channel 5 and from Channel 4 which will be even more of a threat

now that it has more money to spend on British programmes.

She thinks that in five years television-on-demand — being able to choose the programme you want when you want it — will become commonplace and represent "a real sea-change" for the television industry. By then she estimates that at least 20 per cent of Britons will be regularly using the Internet. This will enhance, she suggests, the role of newspapers and magazines.

Hughes hopes, eventually, to split her time between communications consultancy and her first love — development work in Africa.

She has never completely lost touch with her early working life. She spent part of the Christmas period on a farm in Kenya, where more than 20 years ago she was responsible for providing water with a windmill project.

# Comings, goings, gongs

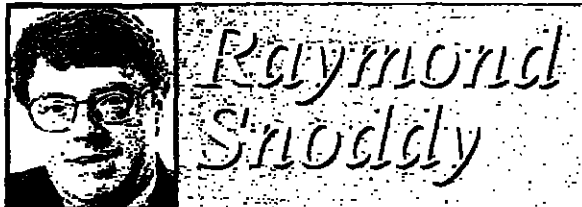
THE past year has been an extraordinary one on the media merry-go-round. Chris Evans found himself in control of Virgin Radio, mainly because he did not fancy working on Fridays at the BBC. Michael Grade decided that the intellectual challenge of running bingo clubs and Blackpool Tower as executive chairman of First Leisure was superior to being head of Channel 4.

Sam Chisholm left BSkyB after saving the company. Now his task, working with Mr Grade, is to find something to put in the Millennium Dome. Mr Grade's departure made a dream come true for Michael Jackson, who once earned £25 a week lobbying for the creation of the channel he now heads. Mr Jackson's departure from the BBC meant

Major have an election campaign jet — at normal commercial rates, of course — and signed an unfashionable "Business Backs the Tories" letter to the *Daily Mail*.

There were also two rising stars in major media dynasties — Jonathan Harmsworth, scion of the owning family at the *Daily Mail* and General Trust, became deputy managing director of the *London Evening Standard*, and Lachlan Murdoch became executive chairman of News Corporation's interests in Australia and the frontrunner to succeed his father, Rupert.

But in a year when it was hard to escape talk of the Internet and the *Teletubbies*, it was reassuring to find that the two real stars in the UK media



Raymond Snoddy

that Alan Yentob, successful Controller of both BBC1 and BBC2, got the top job he should have had before the Beeb embarked on yet another restructuring.

Meanwhile, Richard Eyre, former chief executive of Capital Radio and a television novice, has given himself 100 days — which runs out in two weeks — to sort out the declining ITV. But the career prospects of the chief executive of the ITV Network Centre should be fine, at least until mid-1998. Michael Green, chairman of Carlton Communications, says he will back Mr Eyre "as long as he is successful".

Perhaps the most dramatic arrival of the year was that of Marjorie Scardino at Pearson, the publishing and entertainment group whose interests range from the *Financial Times* to Madame Tussaud's. Ms Scardino, an American and the first woman to run a FTSE 100 company, has given herself five years to double the group's value.

Another significant departure was Sir Michael Bishop, chairman of Channel 4 and British Midland. His hopes for a second five-year term at Channel 4 were a bit forlorn after he let John

firmament — Channel 5 and the regional and local press — were of a more traditional bent. Channel 5 is special because it is the last, nearly national channel to squeeze its way in using existing technology before the digital world opens up. There may have been reception problems but it got on air, with only one postponement. Some bankers even talk about it being worth £1 billion by 2000. The regional press also deserves a gong, for managing to come back from the dead. Rising circulations are now becoming commonplace in the sector.

THAT, of course, was last year. Everything will be different now in digital 1998. Someone eventually has to be brave enough to accept the chief executive's job at British Digital Broadcasting, the commercial terrestrial television service due to launch in the final quarter of the year. Whoever finally steps forward will have 15 new channels to play with. The greatest media challenge, however, falls to Mark Booth, Sam Chisholm's successor at BSkyB. He takes on an obligation to launch 200 digital satellite channels by "late spring".

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Paul Stahr:



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## Is this the end for News at Ten?

### ITV may again try to find a new slot for its flagship programme

The Independent Television Commission plans to stage a public consultation exercise if the ITV companies decide, as is widely expected, to ask formally to move *News at Ten*.

Such a consultation could delay any move for ITV's flagship news programme, and could also open up a political debate of the type that stopped proposals to shift *News at Ten* in 1993.

The attitude of the ITV companies could become clear this month after a review of all aspects of the ITV schedule by Richard Eyre, chief executive of the ITV Network Centre, and David Lidington, the network director. The review aims to modernise the ITV schedule after five years of loss of audience share in the face of increasing competition. In particular, ITV's performance in attracting young viewers has annoyed advertisers.

Analysts believe that despite the advantages of having the main evening bulletin at 10pm — including the power of an established brand — it would be hard to make radical changes to the schedule without moving the programme. The main problem is the 9pm watershed that marks the time more adult-orientated programmes can be shown. Films or extended dramas starting at 9pm are cut by *News at Ten*, followed by regional news. When films resume at 10.40pm there is often a significant audience loss.

The ITC has made it clear that it will have an open mind about any formal proposal to move *News at Ten*, as long as it has the support of all the ITV companies. However, the period of public consultation will be only one potential barrier to any change. Senior ITV executives point out that the com-

panies are required not only to offer high-quality national and international news during prime time — usually seen as ending at 10.30pm — but also at regular intervals throughout the broadcasting day. Having a main evening news programme at 6.30pm and then nothing until 11pm will clearly not be acceptable.

Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sport Secretary, has made it clear that he, too, would prefer (although he has no direct power to intervene) a run of substantial news programmes from the national broadcasters throughout the evening. But there is also a financial barrier to moving *News at Ten*, at least for the next year or so.

Between 1999 and 2001 the ITV companies will be renewing their licences — a process that begins next month. They desperately want to reduce the amount of money they pay to the Treasury, £400 million a year at present, in addition to conventional company tax.

The ITC has been given complete discretion to value the new ITV licences and decide how much each should pay to the Treasury.

It is now being privately suggested that if the ITV companies come forward with an economic argument for moving *News at Ten* — that they will be able to make more money as a result — then that extra money will immediately be taken into account when the franchises are valued for taxation purposes.

The practical difficulties barring the way of moving *News at Ten* could give some of the ITV companies pause for thought.

## The best and worst ads of 1997

**1 BBC Corporate Perfect Day**  
FOR A mere £250 appearance fee, stars from Bowie to Bono crooned Lon Read's classic to demonstrate the diversity of music coverage on the BBC, and what good value the licence fee represents. We all know it's an ad really, whatever the Beeb says. Given that, this beautiful piece of film was the commercial message that shone through loudest and with most originality.

**2 Volkswagen "affordability" campaign**  
THE cleverest ads on the box. The woman fainting in Oxford Street, the hapless bloke in the dentist's chair, the woman hiccupping as she reads the paper and the poor Guardsman who resists anything the tourists can annoy him with, but has to glance at a passing bus with a VW price ad on it. Normally affordability ads are churned out as wallpaper advertising. This campaign demands that viewers take a second look.

**3 VW Passat launch**  
THE VW detail-meisters and design kapiteins poring over the contours of avocados listening to the sound of clunking doors and spectacle cases gave us some of the more memorable images of the year.

**4 VW Sharan boarding YES VW, and its agency BMP DDB, again.** This is the one in which the new line-jelly Sharan people carrier emerged from the mould of the old VW Camper van. Instant heritage.

**5 Virgin Atlantic "Grin Reaper"**  
DISLODGED masonry is about to fall on the head of a man on a bench. Grin Reaper waits while man's life flashes before his eyes. And waits. Man flies Virgin and has packed in a lot. Grin Reaper nods off, bloke walks away.

**6 First Direct "queues"**  
BOB MORTIMER's queue-jumping antics prove that financial service ads don't have to be dreadful.



**7 One-2-One "Ian Wright"**  
"WHO would you most like to have a One-2-One with?" became part of the language last year. You really do believe that Ian Wright would want to talk to Martin Luther King. But would he listen?

**8 Ikea**  
UNUSUAL ads that make fun of market research and reveal what our furniture tells us about our personalities.

**9 Nike Parklife**  
ERIC CANTONA and friends playing football on Hackney Marshes to Damon Albarn's soundtrack adds up to — arguably — the best ad about football ever.

**10 British pork and beef**  
THE elderly couple dancing around their living room and the harassed dad trying to cook dinner for the family represent a brave attempt by the meat industry to defend itself from the Government's incompetence.

**1 RAC**  
TWO-AND-A-HALF minute "documentaries" (yawn) wherein boffins and environmentalists muse on the future of the planet. A good example of the "emperor's new clothes" syndrome that afflicts adland. Why did no one have the guts to say: "this is a load of drivel!"

**2 Rover 600 "hostage"**  
THE crassness of the script defies belief. The ad was pulled by Rover, but once seen, never forgotten.

**3 Cheltenham & Gloucester "yeti"**  
LITTLE Eskimo boy rescues yeti from bounty hunters. Yeti and Eskimo boy exchange knowing glances and walk off into the snowscape to begin a beautiful relationship. I wish I was making it up. Whose bright idea was it to actually show a yeti?

**4 American Airlines "eagle"**  
YES, you really did see people flying across the Atlantic on a giant eagle. This American import proves again that there's one language, two cultures.

**5 United Airlines "rising"**  
A SMALL boy stands looking up at what amounts to the history of planes flying over the lip of a cliff, and waits in vain for a little irony to arrive.

**6 The Independent on Sunday**  
THE 90-second ad depicts a bewildering burial service for boring Sundays. It may just bury the paper, too.

**7 Adidas "Henman"**  
TIM HENMAN plays a killer tennis player, sweeping like a tornado through the grand slam tournaments. Yes, it is as ridiculous as it sounds.

**8 Holsten posters**  
A ONCE much-loved ad campaign reduced to playing on swearwords. Sad.

**9 Accurist**  
SUPER-SKINNY model wears watch on her upper arm with a "put some weight on" tagline. The joke was as unfunny as all the post-rationalisation that inevitably followed.

**10 Kleenex "double velvet"**  
WHICH bright spark believes we care that our loo roll is dried in the air? Stefano Flatfield is Editor of Campaign.



Grin but great: the Virgin Atlantic advertisement, in which holiday visions keep death at bay. Just grim: the crassness of Rover's "hostage" commercial defies belief



Grin but great: the Virgin Atlantic advertisement, in which holiday visions keep death at bay. Just grim: the crassness of Rover's "hostage" commercial defies belief



# Santa's bumper album bundles

Own up — who bought Wham's greatest hits? David Sinclair on the best of the Christmas compilation CDs

It is a curious fact that while all eyes are on the race for the No 1 single at Christmas, the far more lucrative battle for supremacy in the album chart goes completely unremarked. One reason for this is the stability of the album chart. Since November the top three positions have been monopolised by the Spice Girls, Celine Dion and the Verve, all with albums that are well on the way to sales of a million copies in the UK. However, making up the backbone of the Christmas album chart are the "Greatest Hits" compilations which nobody talks about, but everyone buys. Last year produced a bumper crop of such retrospectives by artists including John Lennon, Hot Chocolate, Sting and the Police, Jimmy Nail, Robson and Jerome, Kenny G, David Gates and Bread, Bob Dylan and David Bowie. It is hardly a list of the most cutting-edge acts, but in cherry-picking the best moments from an artist's career these "Greatest Hits" collections offer an appealing introduction — or a timely reminder, depending on your point of view. So, with the results now in, here is a critical guide to the winners of the "other" chart race: the seasonal scramble for the unofficial title of Christmas compilation of 1997.



Girl group Eternal in the foursome days before Louise went solo: top of the compilation album pops, their *Greatest Hits* got to No 2 and had sold 750,000 copies by Christmas

**ETERNAL**  
*Greatest Hits*  
(1st Avenue/EMI) 21798, £14.99

Released: October 20  
Highest chart position: 2  
Number of Top 20 hits: 14  
UK sales to Christmas: 750,000

LEADER of the pack is Eternal's *Greatest Hits*, an album which fully justifies its gilt-edged generic title. The collection is remarkable not least for the swiftness of its arrival, just four years after the release of the group from Croydon's first single, *Stay*. Can they really have had so many hits already?

Having weathered the departure of founder member Louise Nurdling in July 1995, Eternal have quietly turned into one of this country's most consistently formidable chart acts, despite the fact that their songs are mostly bought in from a variety of sources. Although somewhat given to tiresome power ballads à la Whitney Houston (*I Am Blessed, Someday*), they yield to no one in their street-smart delivery of high quality soul-pop tunes such as *Good Thing*

and *Angel Of Mine*. Their recent chart-topping performance of BeBe Winans's song, *I Wanna Be The Only One*, is a rare moment of untrammelled vitality. **WHAM!** *The Best Of Wham! — If You Were There...* (Epic) 489020, £13.99  
Released: November 24  
Highest chart position: 4  
Number of Top 20 hits: 10  
UK sales to Christmas: 600,000

IT NOW seems strange to think that during their heyday in the 1980s, Wham!, like Abba before them, were routinely derided as overexposed pop makeweights. The rapid sales of this compilation suggest otherwise, and it would be a hard hard indeed that could not take some pleasure in such perfectly formed teen anthems as *Wake Me Up Before You Go Go*, *I'm Your Man*, *Freedom* and *Last Christmas*, especially during the party season. Time often confers dignity on music from the lighter end of the pop spectrum, and clearly George Michael's early songs and the exuberant chemistry of Wham!'s performances have a far more enduring appeal than most pundits would once have given them credit for. Think about it next time you hear a cheap joke about the Spice Girls.

**ENYA** *Paint The Sky With Stars — The Best Of Enya* (WEA) 20895, £13.99  
Released: November 3  
Highest chart position: 4  
Number of Top 20 hits: 4  
UK sales to Christmas: 400,000

SOMETHING of a dark horse considering its low tally of hits, Enya's *Paint The Sky With Stars* nevertheless scores high marks for seasonal resonance. With their drifting, pseudo-choral arrangements and gentle Gaelic lilt, numbers such as *The Celts*, *Storms In Africa*, *Caribbean Blue* and *Orinoco Flow* offer a soothing musical balm for the spirit, although to the unbeliever it may sound more like wallpaper music for a New Age travelogue. Such quibbles of taste aside, *Paint The Sky With Stars* has further confirmed Enya's status as Ireland's biggest musical export after U2. The only compilation of these four by a non-British act, it is by far the most successful abroad, with worldwide sales already past the four-million mark.

**JAZZ**  
*The Ray Gelato Giants*  
*Pizza on the Park*

man, he makes up for it with pungent tenor saxophone solos in the spirit of the old showman Illinois Jacquet. Alex Garnett looks after the other alto and tenor duties in a Brylcreem-era group which, in between the broad, occasionally over-the-top comedy and ad libs, seldom skimps on musical values. Along with trumpeter Enrico Tommaso and trombonist Andy Baker, he made the most of crisp horn arrangements — on up-beat material as varied as *Let The Good Times Roll* and *It Don't Mean A Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing*. Gelato has made a point of playing down the "jumping jive" tag in recent years; the band certainly has more to offer than that. *Don't Let It Go To Your Head* was suavely delivered in the spirit of Nat "King" Cole's mid-Fifties recording in which vocals and concise but expressive instrumental solos are astutely interwoven. **CLIVE DAVIS**

### TOP TEN ALBUMS

- Urban Hymns... Verve (Hut)
- Let's Talk About Love... Celine Dion (Epic)
- Spiceworld... Spice Girls (Virgin)
- The Best Of... Wham (Epic)
- All Saints... All Saints (Texas)
- White on Blonde... Texas (Mercury)
- Greatest Hits... Eternal (EMI)
- Postcards From Heaven... Lighthouse Family (Wild Card)
- Like You Do... Best Of... Lightning Seeds (Epic)
- Lennon Legend... John Lennon (Parlophone)

CDs reviewed in *The Times* can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498.

**TOWER** no music, no life

# the 1998 real sale

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Richard Morrison's Week in the Arts column will return next Friday

## Meanwhile, is something stirring on the Complete Unknowns Coming Out of Nowhere front?

If you are a regular viewer of *Top of the Pops*, you will already know that 1998 is shaping up to be a beanfeast of happiness and joy. That is mainly because TOTP presenter Jayne Middlemiss has obviously been taken to one side and told to stop doing her "sexy" face after each link. This "sexy" face, which has caused pop fans across the country to writhe in embarrassed agony, consists of Middlemiss saying something like "I scream, you scream, we all scream for — Primal Scream!" and then contorting her face into something which is no doubt supposed to be sultry and alluring, but merely looks as if a member of the audience has trodden on her foot while wearing a pair of spines made of barbed wire, piranha teeth and mousetraps. This has stopped, so we can at least begin 1998 without our fists stuffed in our mouths. What else will happen in 1998? Well, printing presses will be stopped when one of the Spice Girls cuts her hair very short; and Liam Gallagher slavishly follows John Lennon's Pop Star Rule Book and gets into conceptual art. We can all expect two fried eggs nailed to a wall in the

**THE LIGHTNING SEEDS** *Like You Do... Best Of The Lightning Seeds* (Epic) 489034  
Released: November 10  
Highest chart position: 5  
Number of Top 20 hits: 9  
UK sales to Christmas: 600,000

MORE commercial than credible and never entirely convincing as an album act, despite their indie associations, the Lightning Seeds are a group for whom the idea of a "Greatest Hits" compilation might have been invented. Singer and leader Ian Broudie is a personality-free songwriter from the old school, who can spin a pithy three-minute pop tune out of anything from a *Sugar Coat*

motorway that need driving down, and nights out to prepare for that need a boy-pop soundtrack. Catch — three teenage boys determined to replace the terrifying levels of gay kitsch irony in boybands with some indie/northern soul pop bliss — have their second single, *Dive In*, out in January.

The second are Air: imagine if the theme-tune from *Man About The House* rolled up a jazz cigarette and rumba'd around your living room for four in the morning. If a tiny part of you has ever longed to have a space age bachelor pad, in which you would hold parties that had Kraftwerk chatting about the US Cuban embargo at one end of the room, and *Felt playing strip-poker* at the other end, then this is the soundtrack to that imaginary soirée. And as Air are French, it happily means that you can issue invitations with "Soirée" printed on them without feeling a tiny bit nobby. Their debut single, *Sexy Boy*, is out on February 9.

The third band are something very special indeed. The Unbelievable Truth are a

three-piece from Abingdon, Oxford, who have picked up the threads of rock's semi-forgotten geniuses — American Music Club; the latter, spooked years of Talk Talk — and woven an enchanting melancholic blanket from it. It's the kind of music that, when played on a Walkman while walking through the fraught winter city streets, makes you glide like a goddess. Although talking about a band's "musicality" is the kind of thing that should usually have you hiding under the bed, in the Unbelievable Truth's case it's completely cherishable: a vast, epic, limitless skill that means their debut album, out sometime in spring, is undoubtedly the first gripping chapter of one of the 1990s' most eagerly awaited, on-going novels.

The fact that the singer and main songwriter, Andy Yorke, is the brother of Thom Yorke from Radiohead only makes them more intriguing. It also confirms the suspicion that the Yorkes spent the entire late Eighties playing *Scrabble* with chord structures. The fact that you got a record token for Christmas — instead of a Lamborghini and Peter André's head on a spike — doesn't seem so bad now, does it?

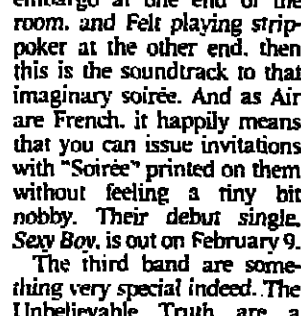
And on the Complete Unknowns Coming Out of Nowhere front, there are three reasons to resist the urge to stake your ears on a losing hand at cribbage in the new year TV lull. The first are the

### Primo-time jive

NOW is the season to be jiving. When the day finally comes for George Melly to hang up his fedora and play the last of his new year residencies at Ronnie Scott's — the jazz world's annual pantomime — Ray Gelato and his big little swing band might just fill the gap.

Perhaps the singer-saxophonist should start building up a stock of off-colour jokes and some louché anecdotes about the early years of Surrealism. Like Good Time George, Gelato is not ashamed to be an entertainer. Jazz has grown so solemn in its autumnal years that there is no harm in being reminded of its reckless, beer-swilling youth.

In Gelato's case, the role model is the Italian-American bandleader Louis Prima, known to generations of filmgoers as the voice of King Louis in Disney's *The Jungle Book*. He also made a posthumous comeback this year in Stanley Tucci's gourmet film *Big Night* as the man who never came to dinner. But his music certainly made its presence felt. Gelato, a stocky figure with a neat line in period suits, captures Prima's vocal style perfectly on a boogied-up version of Dean Martin's hit *That's Amore*. If he is sometimes a diffident front



CAITLIN MORAN

## Dance fights back

Ending a year in which rock fought back fiercely against dance music's dominance of the cutting edge, the Essential New Year's Eve extravaganza at Alexandra Palace wisely fielded a bill packed with guitar-friendly crossover acts. Considering that this event's parent company went into liquidation just weeks before new year, and that the original headline band, Black Grape, pulled out at the last minute, the oddly muted atmosphere was perhaps understandable. Even so, the eclectic bill made a decent fist of capturing the essence of contemporary dance music. Its dominant flavour was the so-called "big beat" sound which has largely replaced the clinical minimalism of early 1990s electronic

**LIVE GIG**  
*Essential*  
Alexandra Palace

music with distorted hip-hop drum loops and guitars sampled from heavy rock. The duo generally credited with pioneering this muscular hybrid are the Chemical Brothers, who weighed in with a thunderous two-hour DJ set in the early hours of 1998.

Before then, though, several other variations on the big beat theme were also on offer. Fluke, the first live act on the main stage, demonstrated just how limited and formulaic this fashionable new genre can be, with an hour of morose chants and grindingly repetitive percussion.

Thankfully, other live acts, such as Dirty Beaches and the Lo-Fidelity All Stars, seemed altogether more comfortable straddling the border between dance and rock. The former combined funky basslines, guitars and drums with energetic party spirit and gentle self-mockery. The latter married the punky sneer and boozey swagger of Oasis to punishing mechanical grooves and splenic disco beats.

If any one act could be said to have epitomised progressive dance music in 1997 it must be Roni Size's Reprazent. This Bristol-based drum-and-bass collective topped a triumphant year of awards and critical plaudits with what was effectively the headline slot here, taking the stage in the main hall just after the new year was ushered in by a barely audible Highland piper.

With their stock currently running high, Reprazent were naturally afforded a rapturous welcome, even though this cavernous venue did scant justice to their whizzing collages of intricately textured, multilayered, electronic percussion. Much of their trademark craftsmanship was lost in the hall's booming acoustics, so it fell to singer Onaltee and rapper MC Dynamite to carry the set with old-fashioned showmanship.

As dawn approached other treats included the live debut of the British techno pioneer Dave Angel and the eccentric antics of hip-hop prankster — and one-man band — Les Rhythmes Digitales. But even these exotic morsels could save this event from adding up to less than the sum of its parts. Thus a confusing year in dance music came to a suitably muddled end.

**STEPHEN DALTON**



Hats off to the fruitcakes

Whatever the self-appointed purists say, traditional panto has to star a Dame wearing a succession of insane hats, and include numerous references to the year's hit songs. I am pleased to report that in David Lambert's retelling of the old tale a warbling Robin Hood reveals to us what he/she really really wants, and that Desmond Barrit's Nurse Glucose, monumentally larger than life, plays one scene wearing upon her his curly wig a green beret with all four Televisions on top. Pantomime is made of this.

Babes in the Wood Theatre Royal, Norwich

Amazing Boffo, skilfully juggles balls, clubs and knives at the Nottingham Goose Fair. Robin, as played by Lucinda "Neighbours" Cowden, slaps her shining thighs in the required manner but could not persuade me she would lead her merry men to victory, even if pined against the lowest-ranking team in Quarterstaff's Division Four. But though the character is needed for the plot, it takes fun and games to make a panto memorable. That and a stream of glamorous costumes, some of which will come pouring on just for the big transformation scene or the walk-down. Peter Wilson's production is rich in these bobbing wimples, motley, lads in claret frocks, set against impressive views of Nottingham Castle's frowning walls.

JEREMY KINGSTON



There is nothing like a dame: Desmond Barrit is monumentally larger than life as Nurse Glucose

MUSIC: Hilary Finch meets Diana Burrell, the fast-rising composer with a natural touch. Plus concert review

Tuned to the landscape

Diana Burrell once had a dream. She was being led through ancient woodland in a cold northern landscape, and was brought to a clearing in which there was a great earth-mound. She struck the mound with a stick, and it gave birth to a pale child, cradled in willow-twigs. Her next piece, Barrow, was a strange Tippett-like musical rite for high bassoon, electric guitar, cello, drums.

And next week, in her role as featured composer in the Park Lane Group Young Artists Concerts on the South Bank, there will be at least one Heron for the spotting, and a handful of Constellations too. But there is also, on Wednesday, a trio for clarinet, cello and piano called simply Untitled Composition. Together with the new Flute Concerto which will be premiered on Thursday at the Barbican, it points to a new direction in Burrell's thinking as she enters her 50th birthday year.



Burrell: changing style

players of the London Schools Symphony Orchestra, all of whom will be fully stretched, from the back desk of the violins to the tubular bells and the gongs - in water. "I hope the Barbican stage won't be flooded."

Ringing it in

King's Consort Wignore Hall

The King's Consort's New Year's Eve concert has clearly become a fixed event in many calendars, and another capacity audience turned out to enjoy the latest. The theme, "Christmas in Venice", applied strictly only to the first half, but although we were transported to Dresden in the second for Schütz's Christmas Story, the latter has sufficient Venetian connections (Schütz learned music on his various trips to that city) to make the journey justifiable.

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# Employer entitled to full credit

Digital Equipment Co Ltd v Clements

Before Lord Justice Beldam, Lord Justice Potter and Sir John Balcombe (Judgment December 4)

On a true interpretation of section 74 of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 it was clear that Parliament intended that the employer who paid compensation for redundancy on a more generous level than the statutory scale was to be entitled to full credit for the additional payment against the amount of any loss which made up a compensatory award for unfair dismissal.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved decision allowing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Digital Equipment Ltd, from the dismissal by the Employment Appeal Tribunal (The Times December 11, 1996; [1996] ICR 829) of their appeal from an industrial tribunal which on September 6, 1995 had made an award of the maximum sum of £11,000 to the defendant, Mr Clements, for unfair dismissal.

Mr David Richardson for Digital Equipment; Mr David Christie, instructed by the Bar Pro Bono Unit, for Mr Clements.

LORD JUSTICE BELDAM said that Mr Clements' employment was terminated by reason of redundancy on March 31, 1994. He received a redundancy payment.

An industrial tribunal later determined that the proper procedure had not been carried out and that he had been unfairly dismissed.

It held that if a fair procedure and proper consultation had taken place there would have been a 50 per cent chance that he would have been retained.

The basic award, corresponding to statutory redundancy pay was, in the words of the tribunal, subsumed in the redundancy payment made to Mr Clements. At subsequent hearings the tribunal determined that Mr Clements' loss over the relevant period, from the date of dismissal to the date of the hearing and for nine months thereafter, including all aspects of remuneration, was £43,136 and the balance of the redundancy payment at £20,685.

For Mr Clements it was argued that the redundancy payment should be deducted from the £43,136 leaving a balance of £22,451; that figure should then be reduced by 50 per cent giving a compensatory award of £11,225. That would result in the maximum of £11,000 being payable.

The plaintiffs argued that the tribunal should first reduce the loss by 50 per cent leaving a compensatory award of £22,568 from which the tribunal should then deduct the £20,685 leaving a balance of £1,883. The tribunal decided in Mr Clements' favour.

On appeal the Employment Appeal Tribunal decided in favour of the plaintiffs but that was reversed on review.

The instant appeal was heard two days after judgment was given by another division of the court in *Ministry of Defence v Wheeler and Others* (The Times November 19, 1997). Those appeals raised a similar question of the correct

approach of an industrial tribunal to the calculation of a compensatory award for wrongful dismissal after a finding that a claimant had proved only a percentage chance that he would have continued in his employment had his dismissal not been unfair.

In *Wheeler* the court illustrated the different results produced by two different approaches. It took the simple example of a servicewoman who was earning £10,000 a year and on leaving established a civilian earning capacity of £5,000.

On the assumption that she had a 50 per cent chance of returning to service life after the birth of her child, the Ministry of Defence's argument would result in her having been held to have suffered no loss at all, that is 50 per cent of her service earnings of £10,000 - £5,000, less £5,000 a nil. On the servicewoman's argument her loss was £10,000 minus £5,000 = £5,000. That was enough to persuade the court that the servicewoman's argument was correct.

In the present case the basic award which was intended to equal the statutory redundancy entitlement had been taken into account by deduction from the redundancy payment which was made on a scale far more generous than the statutory entitlement.

The question the court had to decide was whether an industrial tribunal was required to treat such a payment differently from the way the court treated the loss of earnings claim in *Wheeler*.

The question was whether the language used in section 74 of the 1978 Act showed that Parliament

intended that payments made by employers, which exceeded the statutory redundancy payment, should be deducted after the tribunal had decided the amount of the compensatory award under section 74(1).

His Lordship considered that Parliament has drawn a clear distinction in the treatment of the excess of redundancy payments which had actually been made by an employer and the other elements which went to make up the loss.

A clear distinction was drawn in the subsections of section 74 between the said loss, that is "the loss sustained by the complainant in consequence of the dismissal" which was to make up the amount of the compensatory award and, on the other hand, the compensatory award itself.

Thus the section provided that the excess of the redundancy payment over the basic award was not to be taken into account in ascertaining the loss but was to go to reduce the amount of the compensatory award.

Approaching the interpretation of section 74 even as a whole his Lordship thought it was clear that Parliament intended that the employer who paid compensation for redundancy on a more generous scale than the statutory scale was to be entitled to full credit for the additional payment against the amount of the loss which made up the compensatory award.

Lord Justice Potter and Sir John Balcombe agreed.

Solicitors: Mr Nigel Bains, Reading.

Crewe Services and Investment Corporation v Silk

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Robert Walker (Judgment December 2)

A judge was wrong to treat undiscounted costs of repair as the diminution in value of the reversion when assessing damages for breach of covenant under a continuing annual agricultural tenancy protected by the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986, where the tenancy was of unpredictable duration and it was unlikely that the landlord intended to execute the repairs.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment, allowing an appeal as to quantum by the tenant, Mr Gerald Silk, against the order of Mr Recorder Burgess sitting at Winchester County Court on September 10, 1996, whereby he awarded the landlord, Crewe Services and Investment Corporation, £15,940 damages for breaches of covenant under a continuing annual agricultural tenancy.

The notice of appeal included the following grounds: that the judge erred in law in finding that the value of the reversion had been diminished by the tenant's breach, when no direct evidence of diminution had been adduced; that the landlord had failed to prove or quantify any diminution in the value of the reversion; and that the judge erred in holding that the value of the reversion had been diminished in the amount of his own estimate of the cost of repairs.

Mr Clifford Duxton for the tenant; Mr Stephen Jordan for the landlord.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT WALKER said that Mr Darton submitted correctly that the measure of damages for breach of a repairing covenant during a continuing tenancy was the diminution in the value of the reversion resulting from the breach; see *Gooderham & Worts v Canadian Broadcasting Corporation* ([1947] AC 66, 83) and *Conquest v Ebbetts* ([1990] AC 490, 494).

The judge had relied strongly on the Court of Appeal's decision in *Jones v Herzhimer* ([1950] 2 KB 106, 116-117) where Lord Justice Jenkins had said: "We find nothing in the earlier authorities to justify the conclusion, as a matter of law, that in no circumstances can the fact that repairs are necessary, and the cost of those repairs, be taken as at least prima facie evidence of damage to the value of the reversion and of the extent of such damage."

That was a case where the tenancy of four rooms in a dwelling house had come to an end, and the cost of putting the rooms into a proper state was naturally taken as the measure of damage.

His Lordship referred to *Doe dead Trustees of Worcester Schools*

# Damages for breach of tenancy

Crewe Services and Investment Corporation v Silk

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Robert Walker (Judgment December 2)

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*v Rowlands* ([1941] 8 Car & P 734, 739-740); *Smiley v Townsend* ([1950] 2 KB 311, 322-323, 328) and *Conquest v Ebbetts* ([1990] 2 Ch 377, 383).

Without going further into the authorities, his Lordship was satisfied that the judge erred in his approach to the assessment of damages. He relied too much on the general principle in *Jones v Herzhimer*.

It was clear as a principle, but it had to be related to the very different facts of that case. It was clear that the law had moved on (see *Conquest v Ebbetts* [1990] AC 490, 493-494) from what Lord Chief Justice Holt had said in *Vivian v Campion* ([1705] 2 Ld Raym 1129): "We always enquire in these cases what it will cost to put the premises in repair and give so much damages, and the plaintiff ought in justice to apply the damages to the repair of the premises."

The permissible heads of damage and the measure of damages in principle had to be arrived at by an objective test.

Mr Darton submitted not merely that the judge was wrong in looking at the undiscounted cost of repair as a guide, but also that the plaintiff had failed to prove its case. He cited Lord Chief Justice Goddard in *Bonham-Carter v Hyde Park Hotel* ([1948] 64 TLR 177, 178).

It was plainly right as a matter of principle that it was for plaintiffs to prove damage. The problem was in relating that to the practicalities of the disposal of business in the county court. County court judges constantly

had to deal with cases that were inadequately prepared and presented and they should not be discouraged from doing their best to reach a fair and sensible result on inadequate materials.

Moreover, there was a strong public interest in encouraging litigants not to incur the expense of a proliferation of expert witnesses unless the additional expense of time and money could be justified.

The judge was wrong to treat undiscounted costs of repair as a safe guide, especially as he did not find that the landlord was going to undertake any repairs itself. He would have been assisted by evidence of the effect of disrepair, caused by a tenant's breaches of covenant, on the value of the freehold interest in the farm if it had been put on the market, subject to and with the benefit of the tenancy, at the date of the hearing.

But his Lordship was by no means sure that the judge needed evidence, beyond what was before him, for the simple proposition that a tenanted farm in a severely bad state was worth less than a tenanted farm where the tenant had complied with all his obligations.

The judge had to do the best he could, just as the jury would have had to do when civil actions were heard by juries.

Where a landlord claimed damages for breach of a repairing covenant near the beginning or in the middle of the term of a long lease, he would, if he failed to lead evidence of diminution in the value of the reversion, run a serious risk of the court concluding that there

had been no significant diminution.

Where a tenant was defending such a claim towards the end of the term of the lease, he would, if he failed to lead evidence that the diminution was much less than the cost of repairs, run a serious risk of the court accepting that cost, or that cost only slightly discounted, as the best evidence of the diminution. In most cases the evidence before the court, even if imperfect and incomplete, would be more important than issues as to the burden of proof.

The present case was a difficult intermediate case. The future duration of the tenancy was imponderable. There was no evidence that the landlord intended to carry out the work itself and some evidence that it was not in a position to do so.

The judge erred in depriving himself of valuation evidence because it was not in the expert's witness statement. But his Lordship rejected Mr Darton's submission that the judge was bound to award no, or only nominal damages, because the landlord had failed to prove his loss.

The principal sum of damages awarded would be adjusted to £11,633. His Lordship would discount that by almost three-quarters to allow for all the uncertainties already mentioned and vary the judge's order to award £5,000 damages.

The Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Millett agreed.

Solicitors: Burley & Geach, Petersfield; Brutton & Co, Fareham.

# Agreeing counsel's fee before taxation

Spath Holme Ltd v Chairman of the Greater Manchester and Lancashire Rent Assessment Committee

Before Mr Justice Morland and Assessors (Judgment December 1)

Counsel and solicitors had to agree the amount of counsel's fee before that fee might be taxed but that could, where necessary, be postponed. Order 62 of the Rules of the Supreme Court did not require agreement on the fee before the process of the general taxation of all of costs was set in motion in accordance with the three-month time limit laid down in Order 29.

Mr Justice Morland, sitting with assessors, so held in the Queen's Bench Division in allowing the appeal of *Spath Holme Ltd* and Robert Curtis against the decision of Master Pollard to disallow counsel's fees on the taxation of costs awarded to them in their

respective actions against the chairman of Greater Manchester and Lancashire Rent Assessment Committee (The Times August 9, 1995) and of the London Rent Assessment Committee.

Rule 2 in Part I of Appendix 2 to Order 62 provides: "(1) ... no fee to counsel shall be allowed unless - (a) before taxation its amount has been agreed by the solicitor instructing counsel ..."

Mr James Bonney, QC and Mr Jonathan Cavaghan for the appellants; Mr Nicholas Bacon for the rent assessment committees.

MR JUSTICE MORLAND said that Mr Bacon had submitted that paragraph 2(i)(a) required agreement by the solicitor before the taxation process commenced although he conceded in argument that that interpretation created practical difficulties.

He submitted that Part V of Order 62 entitled "Procedure on Taxation" was part of the taxation. Part V began with rule 29 which was entitled "Commencement of proceedings".

Under Order 62, rule 29(5), proceedings for the taxation of costs were to be begun by producing the requisite document at the appropriate office. By virtue of Order 62, rule 29(1)(a) and (b) and Appendix 1, paragraph 1(i), the requisite document in such cases was the requisited order or judgment of the High Court or civil division of the Court of Appeal.

Under Order 62, rule 29(1) proceedings for taxation had to be begun within three months of the judgment or order.

Although the general rule was that the bill of costs, signed by the solicitor, and counsel's fee notes had to be lodged at the same time as the "requisite document", under rule 29(7)(c) and (d), the taxing officer could "otherwise order" that exceeding the time for the lodging of the bill of costs and counsel's fee notes.

The practical absurdity of Mr Bacon's submission was illustrated when a dispute arose between counsel and his instructing solicitor as to the agreed amount of a fee. That dispute was not

resolved within three months of the judgment or order. The solicitor was obliged to begin proceedings for taxation by producing the "requisite document".

He applied to the taxing officer for extension of time for lodgment of the bill of costs to allow for the resolution for the dispute as to the amount of counsel's fees. The taxing officer granted the extension of time.

None the less because the "requisite document" had been produced counsel's fees had to be disallowed. The interpretation of paragraph 2(i)(a) could not be right.

The submission of Mr Bonney was clearly right. There was a clear distinction between the commencement of proceedings for taxation and actual taxation.

Giving a purposive interpretation to paragraph 2(i)(a) "before taxation" in the paragraph meant before the actual taxation by the taxing officer or taxing master of counsel's fees.

Solicitors: Drewitt Willan, Manchester; Treasury Solicitor.

# Meaning of 'shop window' for purpose of planning regulations

Havingdon Borough Council v Network Sites Ltd

Before Lord Justice Schiemann and Mr Justice Moses (Judgment November 14)

"Shop window" in planning regulations meant a window in a shop through which one could either see a shop or alternatively see shop wares displayed therein.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated when allowing an appeal by case stated of the London Borough of Havering against the decision of Suresh Chokhri Crown Court to quash the convictions of Network Sites Ltd by Havering Justices on December 11, 1997 of displaying advertisements without consent from the local planning authority, contrary to section 224(3) of the Town and Country Planning Act

1990 and regulations 5 and 26 of the Town and Country Planning Regulations (SI 1992 No 666).

Mr Gary Blaker for the council; Mr Richard Langham for the respondent.

LORD JUSTICE SCHIEMANN said that the respondent had erected an advertisement hoarding with the shop owner's name and logo on it on the flank wall of shop premises at 135 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch.

The wall in question had five small windows in it, each seven feet above the ground. Two of the windows had extractor fans in them and the other three windows let light into a store room.

The respondent contended that class 5 of Part I of Schedule 3 to the 1992 Regulations applied and that

the advertisement had deemed consent as it was placed on a "wall containing a shop window".

The question was what the correct definition of "shop window" was.

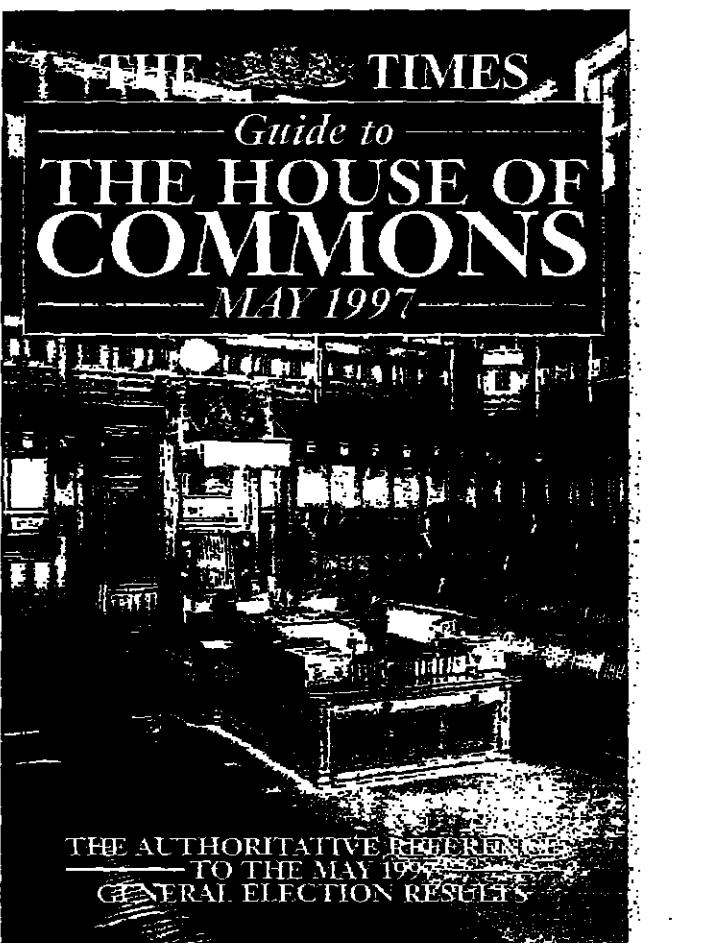
His Lordship decided that "shop window" did not embrace any window within shop premises as contended by the respondent. In the context of the 1992 Regulations "shop window" should have an ordinary and natural meaning and meant any window through which one could see into the shop or alternatively see the shop wares displayed therein.

Accordingly the council's appeal would be allowed and the conviction restored.

Mr Justice Moses agreed. Solicitors: Mr Michael Tink, Havering; Hunt & Hunt & Houghtons, Romford.

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Table of stock prices categorized by sector: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, BANKS, BREWERIES, PUBS & REST, BUILDING & CONSTRUCT, BUILDING MATERIALS, CHEMICALS, DISTRIBUTORS, DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS, ELECTRICITY, ELECTRONIC & ELECT, ENGINEERING, ENGINEERING VEHICLES, FOOD MANUFACTURERS, HEALTHCARE, HOUSEHOLD GOODS, INSURANCE, INVESTMENT TRUSTS, LEISURE & HOTELS, MINING, OIL & GAS, OTHER FINANCIAL, PHARMACEUTICALS, PRINTING & PAPER, PROPERTY, RETAILERS, FOOD, RETAILERS, GENERAL, SUPPORT SERVICES, TEXTILES & APPAREL, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, WATER.

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Construction companies tell PFI to speed up

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Private Finance Initiative... The construction industry...

Butte set for return to market

SHARES of Butte Mining... suspended since January 1997...

Detailed terms are likely to be agreed before the end of the month...

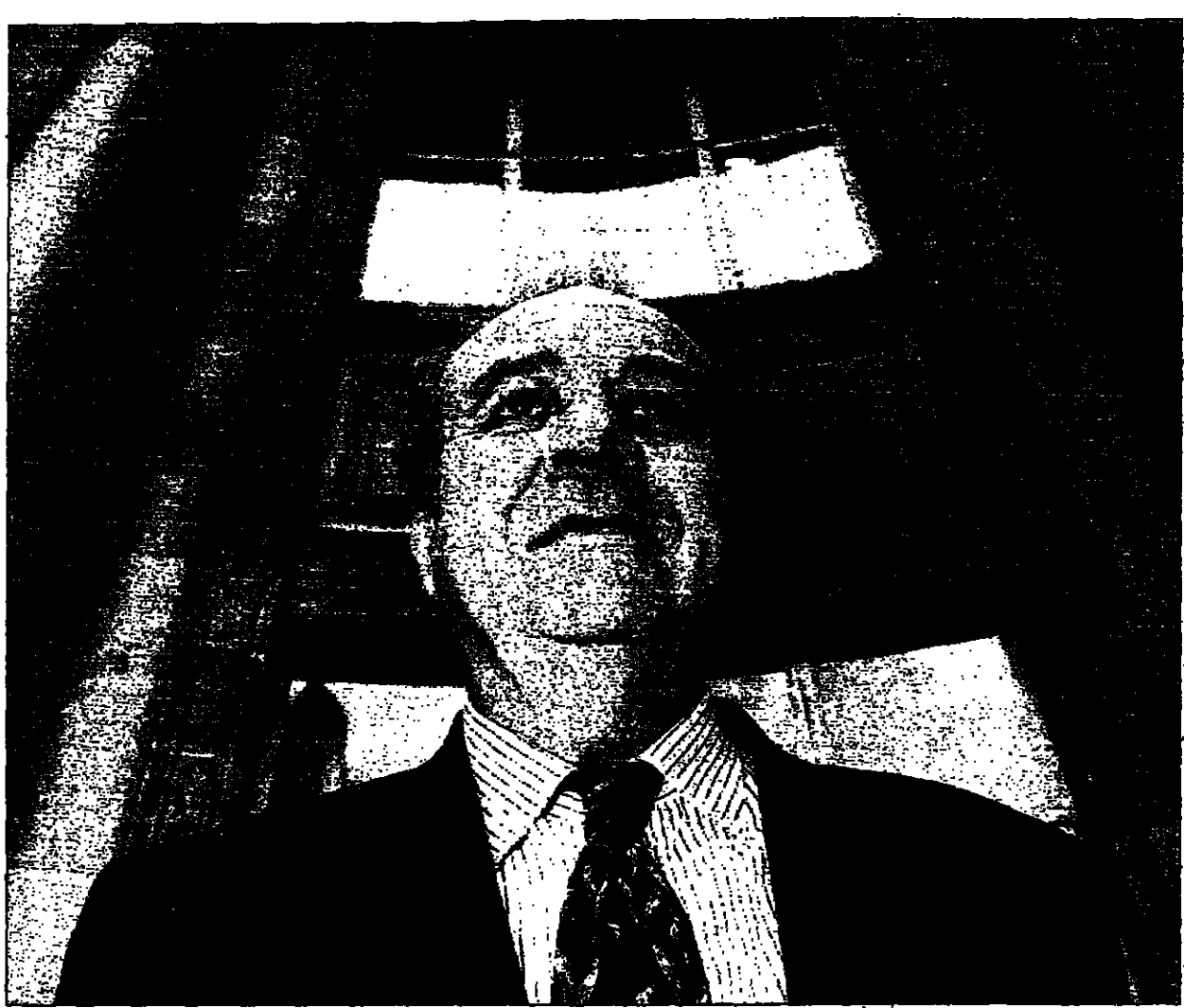
The Stock Exchange has threatened to cancel Butte's share listing...

The company fought a long-running legal battle against former managers and advisers...

man of the confederation... The construction industry...

Although the Treasury has streamlined the previously much-criticised programme...

The Stock Exchange has threatened to cancel Butte's share listing...



Pierre Bonelli's company, Sema, capitalised at about £1.5 billion, is one of the largest in the new sub-sector

New index for high-tech hopefuls

By CHRIS AYRES

INVESTORS hoping to spot the next Microsoft before it makes the big time will have their task made easier today...

Mark Makepeace, managing director of FTSE International, said: 'The positive response to the new sub-sector led us to introduce the new index from day one...

Former England footballer issues writ for £600,000

By CAROLINE MERRELL

JOHN FASHANU, the former England footballer, has issued a writ against Guardian Royal Exchange for £600,000...

US judge gives ruling in favour of Baby Bells

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN WASHINGTON

A US JUDGE has rejected as unconstitutional provisions of a landmark federal law that restrict the regional telecom companies...

Financial tables including LONDON, FTSE 100, and various market indices.

Hotline is launched to catch rogue directors

A telephone hotline to catch defiant directors and undischarged bankrupts who disregard disqualification orders...

The initiative coincides with publication of the latest disqualification statistics, which reveal that more than 250 directors have been banned...

HK Telecom's £384m deal

Hongkong Telecom, in which Cable & Wireless has a 52 per cent interest, has agreed to buy Pacific Link Communications...

House forecast

House prices are expected to rise by about 6 per cent this year and by about 10 per cent in 1999...

Financial tables including LIFFE, COMMODITIES, and various market indices.

Financial tables including various market indices and company data.



Main table containing unit trust prices, organized into columns with headers like 'Unit Name', 'Price', 'Change', and 'YTD %'. Includes various fund names such as 'ABO EQUITY & BOND UNIT TRUST', 'CITY OF LONDON UNIT TRUST', etc.

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# Iron Chancellor ruled by desire to hang tough

### Not everyone is convinced Gordon Brown's approach to the economy is sensible, says Alasdair Murray

Ministers must be hoping that they have finally drawn a line under the battle over cuts to lone parent benefit. The wider issue of public spending still seems certain to be the hot political issue of the new year. The Treasury's spending review is not expected to be completed until mid-year, leaving ample time for scare stories to circulate in Westminster about other benefit cuts. The fallout from the lone parent cuts has already forced the Prime Minister to try to soothe frayed nerves by claiming that Labour is looking to implement a "reform-led" agenda rather than "cuts-led" agenda for the public finances.

Gordon Brown, however, has a second goal as he examines the spending options for the rest of this Parliament. The Chancellor seems determined to avoid the policy mistakes that led to the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) ballooning out of control in the early 1990s. So he is adopting a highly cautious approach to the public finances. Mr Brown has introduced several policy initiatives to help to win this battle — including a fiscal responsibility code. His tough words have won plaudits in the City, which has been pleasantly surprised by the Treasury's strong performance on spending and borrowing.

Not everyone, however, is convinced that Mr Brown is adopting a sensible approach to the public finances. Both the left of the Labour Party and Liberal Democrats have expressed scepticism about the need to keep such a tight rein on public spending at this stage in the economic cycle. They have suggested that Mr Brown's ultra-conservative economic forecasts conceal a much healthier underlying position. Malcolm Bruce, Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesman, even argues that the Treasury is so intent on avoiding "boom and bust" that it is steering the public finances on a course of "bust to boom" — starving public services of funds now, only to shower cash on services just ahead of the next election. Mr Bruce believes that the damage this policy will inflict on



A demonstration last month by lone parents against planned cuts in income support

the public sector "will take years to reverse". Just how tough the Government's current spending plans are proving only emerged with the belated publication of the departmental breakdown of expenditure plans. A number of departments will suffer real-terms cuts in spending with the Department of Transport and the Regions and the Department of Environment among the hardest hit. Even the much-vaunted extra cash for the health service will still leave the NHS facing a rise in resources of less than 1.5 per cent in real terms. Andrew Dilnot, director of the Institute of Fiscal Studies (IFS), describes this sum as "well below trend", compared with a long-run average rise of about 3 per cent a year.

The health service spending growth is also outstripped by a 2 per cent rise in the social security budget — despite the

recent benefit cuts and the relatively low level of unemployment. The Government has acknowledged that it wishes to divert more resources to health and education, and on current trends looks certain to have to prune the benefits budget further.

Beyond April 1999, the Treasury's spending plans are a blank, awaiting the spending review. However, the *Pre-Budget Report* did contain the Treasury's forecasts for revenue growth and the PSBR, and it is these hypothetical numbers that are coming under increasing scrutiny.

Critics of the Treasury figures — who include Lord Barnett, the Labour peer and former Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Labour members of the Treasury Select Committee, as well as the Liberal Democrats — have pointed to

a number of anomalies in the public sector forecasts. The Chancellor has apparently ignored more than £8 billion that will be raised from tax changes. This figure includes £7.7 billion that will be raised over the next five years through the abolition of the advance corporation tax and £700 million after the freeze in the threshold for employers' National Insurance contributions, which are normally raised in line with inflation. The Treasury's forecasts for VAT income has also come under fire, with the Chancellor choosing to use a measure that assumes a long-term downward trend in receipts, even though VAT income has risen this year.

Ruth Kelly, a Labour member of the Treasury Select Committee, told the Chancellor — at his pre-Christmas appearance before the committee — that the possibility all

these measures would prove unhelpful to the public finances was "extremely unlikely". The Lib Dems have calculated that if the Treasury stuck to the Customs and Excise estimates of receipts — which have been approved by the National Audit Office — the Government could be £8.3 billion better off by the end of the Parliament.

However, it is the Treasury's growth forecasts that have come under fiercest attack. Mr Bruce claims that the Chancellor has deliberately built in a huge "buffer" in the public accounts by using "artificially low" growth targets. If the Chancellor had used the mid-trend growth assumptions contained in the Treasury's economic forecasts — rather than below trend predictions — the Treasury would be left with £37 million extra to play with during the remainder of the Parliament, while still achieving a PSBR surplus.

Inevitably, Mr Brown has denied that he has attempted to conceal a "pot of gold" within the forecasts. The Treasury has spent a great deal of time preparing research that demonstrates the dangers inherent in governments adopting an over-optimistic view of the public finances when the economy is performing strongly. This conservative approach has also received independent backing from the IFS. Mr Dilnot says: "To argue that there will be pots and pots of money seems to me to be unlikely. If you want to believe that the economy will enjoy more substantial growth in the next few years, you have to believe that it is not yet at or above its trend level."

In fact, Mr Dilnot's main concern is that the Treasury may still have left itself exposed by raiding the contingency reserve fund for next year. "The fund stands at £1.9 billion which is very low," he says. "It means there is not much room left for emergencies." Rather than discovering the cash to enjoy a spending spree as the Parliament develops, Mr Brown may yet be forced into making further controversial spending cuts if he is to preserve his "Iron Chancellor" reputation.

## Singers on the screen

**The Art of Singing**  
BBC2, 10.05am

A curious subject makes a diverting documentary. It sets out to show how opera singers have been treated in the cinema. The clips go back to 1905, with the *Avril Song* from *Singsong*. But you will ask, surely films were silent until well into the 1920s? Indeed they were, but if the singers could be seen and not heard this did not stop Hollywood paying huge sums to Caruso and others to appear on the screen. With the coming of sound there was more point and it is valuable to have celluloid records of such celebrated voices as Gigli, Chaliapin and Richard Tauber. But opera stars could turn up in the utilitarian vehicles of the great Kirsten Flagstad sang Wagner in *The Big Broadcast of 1938*, starring the bill with Bob Hope and W. C. Fields. A second programme, at 12.50pm, covers opera singers on TV.

**The Face**  
BBC2, 7.30pm

With its 2000ft vertical face Mount Probovis in northwest Canada is a challenge for the most experienced climbers and Barry Blanchard and Nancy Feagin are certainly that. Blanchard, a native Canadian, is a mountaineer of world class while Feagin is an outstanding rock climber from the United States. Their assault on one of the most difficult rock faces in North America launches a series of mountaineering films from around the world. As impressive as the feat itself, even if it is diminished by being edited down into 30 minutes, is the photography which records it. Whether going in close to record Blanchard and Feagin painstakingly climbing their way up wet and slippery rock, or drawing back to show them as specks on a forbidding rock face, the camerawork is sensational.

**Game On**  
BBC2, 9.45pm

Back for a third series, Bernadette Davis's flashing sitcom could well be subtitled *Men Behaving Badly*. Martin (Matthew Cottle) is so hung up about his former girlfriend that his mates make him pay 50p into a Clairebox every time he mentions her name. As for the sexually inadequate



Samantha Janus (BBC2, 9.45pm)

Matt (Neil Stuke), what he does with his teddy bear when nobody is looking may be fair game after the watershed but is hardly repeatable in a family newspaper. However, this show has never been noted for its delicacy, either in language or in behavior, and if the studio audience reaction is typical, the courser it gets the better. Meanwhile Mandy (Samantha Janus) is £9,000 in the red but a rich sugar daddy is poised to help. There are even hints of marriage but this will be a very different sort of series if it happens.

**Shirley Bassey: This Is My Life**  
BBC1, 10.05pm

Aside from that endlessly repeated mock humiliation at the hands of Morecambe and Wise, we do not see Shirley Bassey much on the box these days. One reference-book records her as being in semi-retirement as long ago as 1980 and some of her biggest hits, such as *Long As He Needs Me* and *Goldfinger*, go back even further. According to the same reference book, Bassey is in her sixty-first year but, as Mike Mansfield's film shows, she is still very active, still belting them out. The cameras catch up with her during a hectic schedule which takes her from New York to London and Monte Carlo. In New York she gives a concert at Carnegie Hall and enjoys herself at a post-show party with Ivana Trump and the drag queen, RuPaul. In more private vein she reflects on two failed marriages and her search for Mr Right. Peter Waymark

### RADIO CHOICE

**Bon Appetit**  
Radio 4, 9.45am

This is one of two series about France that are now running back to back on Friday mornings. I mentioned both last week (*Writers France* is the other one, at 10am) but I return to *Bon Appetit* because the second programme in Kevin Connolly's series is even more entertaining than the first. The series is about the mysterious fact that the French regard cooking as an art whereas we treat it as a way to prevent us falling over. Today's programme starts with the armoured truck Connolly is using in Sarajevo colliding with a French army vehicle. The result is not an exchange of insurance companies but a discussion about croissants and baguettes. The programme includes France's baker of the year.

**Performance on 3**  
Radio 3, 7.00pm

This is a recording of what most of the music critics regard as being among the best musical performances at the Edinburgh Festival. It features the Kirów Theatre Orchestra conducted by Valery Gergiev in an evening of works by Prokofiev: two symphonies and the second violin concerto, played by Sergei Levitin, the star of the St Petersburg State Conservatory. The violin concerto is a terrific performance by Levitin, still only 25 years old, full of bold playing and rich tones. The second symphony represents Prokofiev's doomed attempt at modernism and the third acknowledges his failure to match Stravinsky's impact on the musical world as Prokofiev returns to a more traditional approach. Peter Barwood

### WORLD SERVICE

**RADIO 1**

6.30am Chris Moyles 6.00 Mark Goodier 12.30pm Mary Anne Hobbs 3.00 Dave Pearce 5.55 Newsbeat 6.00 Pete Tong 6.05 John Durno 7.00 Hubert Gregg 7.30 Friday Night is British Night (I) 8.15 Darius 8.30 Listen to the Band 7.00 Hollywood Classics: The Track of the Cat 10.30 Bob Harris 1.00am Charlie Novak

6.00am Newsday 6.30 Pick of the World 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf 7.30 Music Review 8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 8.15 Westway 8.30 John Peel 9.00 News in German (848 only) 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Children in Conversation 9.30 BBC English: Speaking of English 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsday 10.30 Assignment 11.00 Newsday 11.30 Focus on Faith 12.00 News 12.30 Newsday 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newsday 2.00 News, a 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multitrack Alternative 3.00 News; News in German (848 only) 3.45 Footage from the Centre of the Atom 3.30 Science in Action 4.00 News 4.15 Wisdom of the World 4.30 The World Today; News in German (848 only) 4.45 Britain Today 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.00 Newsday 6.30 Focus on Faith; News in German (848 only) 7.00 News 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Pause for Thought 7.30 Multitrack Alternative 8.00 Newsday 8.05 News 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 People and Politics 10.00 Newsday 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.05 Outlook 11.30 Multitrack Alternative 12.00 Newsday 12.30am From the Weeklies 12.45 Britain Today 1.00 Newsday 1.30 Just a Minute 2.00 Newsday 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 News 3.05 World Business Report 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Science in Action 4.00 Newsday 4.30 The World Today 4.45 Off the Shelf

### RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am Murray Walker's Grand Prix World (I) 6.30 The Breakfast Programme 8.00 Nicky Campbell 11.30 The Celtic Tiger 12.45 Today with Neil O'Connell Football Extra: Celtic v Rangers. Commentary on the Old Firm derby 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Extra with Paul Harvey 7.30 The Politician, the Actress and the Bishop. Presented by the Times columnist Matthew Parris (I) 8.00 Alan Green's Sportsbook 8.30 Fiddy Sport. David Cates presents an FA Cup special 10.00 Radio 5 Live 11.30 The Celtic Tiger (I) 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night with Richard Dwyer

6.00am Nick Abbot 10.00 Robb Banks 2.00pm Nicky Home 6.00 (FM) Paul Coyne (FM) Colin Jones 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Howard Pearce

### VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Murray Walker's Grand Prix World (I) 6.30 The Breakfast Programme 8.00 Nicky Campbell 11.30 The Celtic Tiger 12.45 Today with Neil O'Connell Football Extra: Celtic v Rangers. Commentary on the Old Firm derby 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Extra with Paul Harvey 7.30 The Politician, the Actress and the Bishop. Presented by the Times columnist Matthew Parris (I) 8.00 Alan Green's Sportsbook 8.30 Fiddy Sport. David Cates presents an FA Cup special 10.00 Radio 5 Live 11.30 The Celtic Tiger (I) 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night with Richard Dwyer

6.00am Alan Mann. Includes the Trumpet Alarm Call and Breakfast Berouze 8.00 Henry Kelly, includes the Hall of Fame Hour and Record of the Week. Plus, a recipe for apple cinnamon pudding 1.00pm Usener Request Hour 2.00 Concerto. Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 4 in G major) 3.00 Caroline Ball 6.30 Newsnight 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven with John Bulling 8.00 Evening Concert. Handel (Chandos Anthem No 5); Telemann (Partisan Quartet No 7); Bach (Keyboard Concerto in D minor); Vivaldi (Gloria) 10.00 Jane Markham. Includes at 11.30 Nocturne 2.00am Concerto (I) 4.00 Sally Peterson

### TALK RADIO

6.00am Breakfast Show 9.00 Peter Dinkley 12.00 Kate Lloyd 2.00pm Mike Dixon 4.00 Bill Overton 7.00 Sportszone 8.00 Mike Allen 1.00am Andy Wint

6.00am Alan Mann. Includes the Trumpet Alarm Call and Breakfast Berouze 8.00 Henry Kelly, includes the Hall of Fame Hour and Record of the Week. Plus, a recipe for apple cinnamon pudding 1.00pm Usener Request Hour 2.00 Concerto. Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 4 in G major) 3.00 Caroline Ball 6.30 Newsnight 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven with John Bulling 8.00 Evening Concert. Handel (Chandos Anthem No 5); Telemann (Partisan Quartet No 7); Bach (Keyboard Concerto in D minor); Vivaldi (Gloria) 10.00 Jane Markham. Includes at 11.30 Nocturne 2.00am Concerto (I) 4.00 Sally Peterson

### RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Rosetti (Symphony in D); Bartok (Sapphic Poem); Trad Finnish (A Kalevala Introduction; Singing Show); Saint-Saëns (African); Bazzini (La Marmitta); Mendelssohn (Piano Concerto No 1 in G minor); 9.00 Morning Collection, with Perry Gore. Weber (Clarinet Concerto No 2 in E flat); Granados (Allegro de Concerto); Schubert (Symphony No 3 in D); 10.00 Musical Encounters, with John Toal. Nicolai (Overture: The Merry Wives of Windsor); Tippett (Overture for Strings); Charles Wood (Two Shakespeare Partsones); Saveliev (Scars of the Soul); Rachmaninov (Mists, Vespers); Beethoven (Piano Sonata in C minor, Op 111); 12.00 Composers of the Week: Twentieth-Century American Song, with Brian Morton; 1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert, from Studio 7, Manchester. Andrew Ball, piano, Haydn (Op 27); Brahms (Piano Sonata No 1 in C, Op 1); 2.00 The BBC Archive. Geoffrey Smith surveys jazz recordings and jazz musicians in the BBC archive. Includes music and interviews from Duke Ellington and Cannonball Adderley, plus recordings of British pioneers Stan Tracey and Tubby Hayes; 4.00 Music Resound. Anthony Hooley introduces rarely heard sacred music for voices and instruments by the 17th-century Italian composer Giovanni Felice Sances, Performed by Musica Fictiva, under Jan Wallace (I)

4.45 Turn of the Century. Concluding the series celebrating great performers Russell Davies looks at Eddie Lizzard; 5.00 The Changing Orchestra. Michael Hall looks at the London Philharmonic and introduces recordings of the orchestra. Includes: Beethoven (Tchaikovsky, Elgar, Holst, Mozart, Stravinsky and Beethoven under Thomas Beecham, Hamilton Harty, Edward Elgar, Adrian Boult, John Barbirolli, Bernard Haitink, Georg Solti and Klaus Tennstedt; 6.30 Solti Resounding. Includes works by Mahler, Bartok, Mozart, Wagner and Beethoven; 7.00 Performance on 3. See Choice. A concert given at last year's Edinburgh International Festival. Sergei Levitin, violin, Kirów Orchestra under Valery Gergiev. Prokofiev (Symphony No 2; Violin Concerto No 2; Symphony No 3); 9.05 Postscript: Ageing Testes. A panel of guests discuss their changing tastes in literature (85); 9.25 Haydn and Bartok. Includes: Bartok (Sonatina); Haydn (Sonata in D, H XVI 24); Bartok (Sonatina); Pierre Boulez (Cummings Ist der Dichter); György Kurtág (Grabstein für Stephan), performed by Netherlands Chamber Choir, Schoenberg Ensemble under Reinbert de Leeuw; 11.30 Composers of the Week: British Light Music 12.30am Kantata's Innovations. Last in the series profiling the pianist and composer Stan Kenton (I) 1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

### RADIO 4

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 6.45 Facts and Fancies. Written by and starring Armando Iannucci (85) 9.00 News and Weather. Sue Lawley's castaway is Glenda Jackson, MP (I) 9.45 Bon Appetit. See Choice (2/4) 10.00 (FM) News; Writers' France. Peter Lanyon looks at the writers who have fallen in love with Paris during the 20th century 10.10 (LW) An Act of Worship 10.15 (LW) On This Day, with Geoffrey Wheeler 10.30 News; Classic Serials: War and Peace. Tolstoy's epic novel, dramatised by Mary Kalten and Mike Walker. With Leo McKern and Simon Russell Beale (8/10) (I) 1.40 The Archers (I) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News; Classic Serials: War and Peace. Tolstoy's epic novel, dramatised by Mary Kalten and Mike Walker. With Leo McKern and Simon Russell Beale (8/10) (I) 3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brennan 4.00 News; 4.05 Radio 3 Live. MW 855, 902 4.45 Short Story Roundup and the Widow Twankey, by John Mortimer. Read by Timothy West (I)

5.00 PM, with Kevin Bourque and Nigel Wrench 5.50 Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Going Places. David Stafford presents more ideas for the weekend ahead 7.00 News and Weather 7.30 Pick of the Week. Chris Soter presents extracts from the week's BBC radio and television 8.00 Any Questions? Panelists including Labour MEP Pauline Green and the journalist Joan Smith debate issues raised in Maidenhead, Berkshire 8.50 Second to None. The second of four programmes in which Sara Parker meets some of life's stand-ins 9.15 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke 9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature: Adventures in Motion Pictures — A Short History of Cinema. A profile of the all-male dance company (I) 9.59 Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, with Robyn Lusby 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Playback, by Raymond Chandler. The final part of Philip Larkin's last case. Read by Angus Macinnes (I) 11.00 Week Ending. A satirical review of the week's news, with Billy Groos, Jon Glover, Dave Lamb and Sarah Parkes 11.25 Tea Junction, with Patrick Harman and guests 11.45 Singalong: Women: Dora, by Stewart Permut. Lesley Joseph recreates her stage role as Dora (8/9) (I) 12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book — Ghost Stories: Rats, by M.R. James (I) 12.45 Shipping Forecast 1.00 Am World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1: FM 97.5-99.5. RADIO 2: FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3: FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: FM 92.4-94.6. LW 198. MW 723. RADIO 5 LIVE: MW 855, 902. WORLD SERVICE: MW 648, LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO: FM 105.8. MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO: MW 1055, 1080. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Jan Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamee.

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Answers from page 24  
**AOUDAD**  
(a) A species of wild sheep, *Ovis ammonus tragelias* (often domesticated) found in North Africa. The French form of the native name. The mated moulton of the Atlas, the Aoudad of modern naturalists.  
**BOOKSY**  
(a) Having literary or bookish pretensions, usually in a jocular or derisive sense. "I'm going to borrow Jack and snitch him away from your booksy conversations."  
**CRISTA**  
(b) A ridge or crest. Specifically in various anatomical and zoological senses. The Latin *crista* = a crest. "In architecture, the crista, or crest, is the apex or highest part of a silhouette."  
**GALPON**  
(a) In South America, a building given to the use of labourers on a farm. The local name. "My father went to the galpon, the big barnlike building used for storing wood, hides, and horsehair."  
**SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE**  
1, g4 breaks through decisively as if... h4g6, 2, Ng5, 1... Qd6, 2, Qh7 mate and, finally, 1... Qg6, 2, Bg7 wins as if 2... Qg7; 3, Rg1.









SPOT PRIZE 36

New index for infotech hopefuls

BUSINESS

HARD MAN 38

Brown ruled by desire to hang tough

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

FRIDAY JANUARY 2 1998

Property market attracts record total from overseas

THE booming property sector has attracted a record level of overseas investment, according to figures to be published shortly...

of 1989 and 1990, when the total topped £3 billion. However, property experts say the UK market, although unlikely to perform as well again this year...

This flow of funds to dry up. Peter Evans, research director, says: "The fundamentals for the UK property market look good for the next two to three years at least..."

the crisis in Asian markets on investors' intentions. Mr Evans said: "There is obviously the issue of the Far East, and frankly I don't know what the answer is..."

markets that are seen as overvalued or dangerous into Britain, which has shown good returns in recent years. Alternatively Asian investors with severe liquidity problems at home could be forced to reduce overseas holdings...

the £4.2 billion spent in the UK last year, £750 million came from America. Most of the buying, about 70 per cent, took place in the capital, but there are signs that investors are looking further afield...

If the investment total falls in 1998, this will be because other European property markets are seen as increasingly attractive as they emerge from recession, says Mr Evans...

Weinberg gets troubled GAN Life for £316m

GAN LIFE, the French-owned life insurer that has one of the worst records of clearing up the personal pensions mis-selling scandal, has been sold to the "vulture fund" operation headed by Sir Mark Weinberg...

course be looking to improve [compensation] performance. LAHC's Windsor Life subsidiary has also come in for criticism for its poor record on personal pensions. However, Mr Wybrew said this was a problem of the struggling companies that LAHC has acquired...

Portfolio, at £230 million. GAN, heavily loss-making in recent years, claims to have made a gain on the sale though that would seem to ignore financing costs. GAN Life has received a number of capital injections over the years, while its profits and sales have declined...



Weinberg: 'vulture fund'



Dog end: the Coral name, so much in evidence at the Coral-owned Romford Stadium yesterday, may disappear after the chain's sale to Ladbroke

Bets off for Coral after sale to Ladbroke

CORAL, the betting shop business founded by Joe Coral in 1926, looks set to disappear from the high street after Ladbroke Group confirmed yesterday that it is to buy the chain from Bass for £375.5 million in cash...

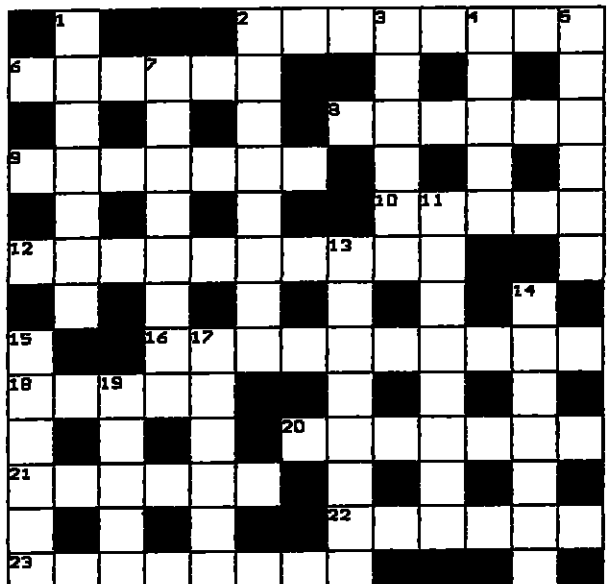
for Ladbroke, said the Office of Fair Trading had indicated that the acquisition would be allowed provided sufficient shops were sold to ensure the enlarged Ladbrokes portfolio did not break the quarter-mile radius rule introduced when William Hill merged with Mecca in 1989...

and Hove plus Bass's interests in various betting joint ventures, including a satellite TV service and the 49's numbers game. The inclusion of the 50 shops in Ireland is subject to clearance by the Irish competition authorities...

is buying made a profit of £5.5 million on sales of about £100 million. Peter Jones, chairman of the Tote, said the acquisition would be largely funded from bank borrowings...

moment." Although it operates under the auspices of the Home Office, the Tote gets no financial support from the Government. The proceeds from the sale of Coral will allow Bass, which has owned Coral since 1981, to bolster its £1.5 billion war chest...

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



- ACROSS: 2 Hypnotic (8), 6 Play false (snooker) shot (6), 8 Skilful, intelligent (6), 9 Selected (phone no.) (7), 10 Hairdresser's shop (5), 12 Ordinary party members (8,5), 16 Gk. geometer: his Principle, screw (10), 18 Generous (5), 20 Using few words (7), 21 Light cavalryman (6), 22 Treat protectively: cook (egg) slowly (6), 23 George - Victorian poet/author (8)

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Barclaycard spend rises 7% to £1.8bn

BARCLAYCARD, whose advertising slogan is "Don't put it off, put it on", said that customers spent £1.8 billion on its credit cards in December, with £1,600 a second going through the system at peak periods. The UK's largest credit card company said that spending on its cards was about 7 per cent up on 1996. Withdrawals from Barclays Bank cash machines were up by 6.6 per cent...

BT venture wins £100m French deal

CEGETEL, a joint venture whose partners include British Telecom, has won a contract worth FF1 billion (£100 million) to set up a national Internet-based healthcare computer network in France. The contract, awarded by the French Social Security Ministry, is for five years. The project will create an open data transmission network capable of serving the country's entire healthcare system...

Milken faces new charges after probation extension

AMERICA'S Securities & Exchange Commission has obtained a court order to extend by one month the probation period of Michael Milken, the former junk bond king. Mr Milken was due to end his time on probation yesterday. However, the US Attorney's office is preparing legal moves against Mr Milken, who was given a ten-year sentence for insider trading in 1990 and paid a \$1 billion (£600 million) fine but spent only two years in prison after agreeing never to work in the securities industry again. New charges against Mr Milken are expected after the



Milken: acted as adviser

back to prison. Mr Milken, 51, has recently acted as an adviser to Time Warner and MCI Communications, which was taken over by WorldCom for \$37 billion. He has also worked with Ron Perelman, the corporate raider. Mr Milken is allowed to advise on strategy but cannot play any role in stock transactions such as mergers and acquisitions. He may not work with "any broker, dealer, investment adviser, investment company or municipal securities dealer". Mr Milken's lawyers say the advisory posts did not violate the probation agreement. He is also being accused of obstruction of justice in connection with the investigation.

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